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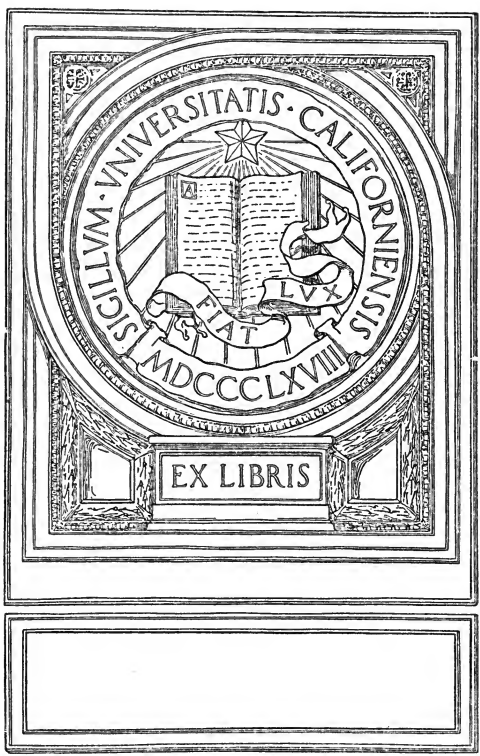
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# JAMAICA:

ITS HISTORY, CONSTITUTION,

AND

TOPOGRAPHICAL DESCRIPTION:

WITH

GEOLOGICAL AND METEOROLOGICAL NOTES.

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Compiled for the use of Schools

BY

JOHN JARRETT WOOD,

*Government Inspector of Schools.*

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KINGSTON:

McCARTNEY & WOOD, No. 16, KING STREET.

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## P R E F A C E .

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For years past I have been urged to prepare a Class-book of Jamaica for the use of Schools. After much hesitation—hoping that some one with more leisure than I had to bestow on the work would undertake it—I began to compile a History and Description of the Island, which I had nearly completed when two other volumes appeared. On perusing them I find that they do not supply the want of this volume, neither will *it* hinder *their* usefulness : therefore I have ventured to put this before the public.

The boundaries of Parishes, &c. have not been given, because such knowledge is more easily acquired by a class before the map.

No questions have been appended, because it is considered a very profitable exercise to require a class, with book in hand, to frame questions on the chapters and subjects in succession, and then, when questions have been framed on given portions, to lay the book aside and proceed to answer them in the pupil's own style. This should be done in the usual Exercise Books.

My maps are obtainable, mounted and varnished, or in sheets, or in book form ; and it is hoped that these and the book will prove highly interesting and acceptable to the youth of Jamaica, among whom I have so long laboured.

I claim no merit for myself in the compilation, except for some judgment in culling, as the book might have been extended to double the size, and thus rendered unfit for the purpose intended. My daughters, too, have wrought at the compilation both of the book and map; and as to the former we have been mainly indebted to *Martin's History of the West Indies*, and to the *Jamaica Handbook*. My labour has been chiefly that of a "gatherer and disposer of other men's matter," but it is hoped that the plan adopted will render the work both entertaining and useful.

If my efforts in the Schools for forty-two years past, and this little work—as well as any labour I may be still spared to perform—shall be found to have contributed a little towards the social elevation and progress of the youth of Jamaica and its dependencies, I shall not have lived in vain.

JNO. JARRETT WOOD.

"MARGARET VILLA,"

ST. ANDREWS, JAMAICA,

December, 1883.



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# THE HISTORY OF JAMAICA.

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## CHAPTER I.—FROM 1494 TO 1661.

1. JAMAICA, an island in the Caribbean Sea, is situated between  $17^{\circ} 43'$  and  $18^{\circ} 32'$  N. lat., and  $76^{\circ} 11'$  and  $78^{\circ} 20' 50''$  W. long., about 5,000 miles south-west of England ; 100 miles west of Hayti or St. Domingo, and 90 miles south of Cuba ; 445 miles north of Carthagena ; 540 miles from Colon ; and 310 from Cape Gracios á Dios in the Mosquito Territory.

2. Jamaica was discovered by Columbus on the morning of the 3rd of May, 1494, during his second expedition to the Western Hemisphere, otherwise called the New World. The island was found to be densely peopled with Indians, resembling in appearance and language the inhabitants of the contiguous mainland. Numerous canoes put off from the shore to meet Columbus, and resistance was offered by a large party of armed Indians when the Spanish boats proceeded to obtain soundings in the haven, now called Port Maria.

3. The voyagers then entered another harbour, named by them Ora Cabessa, and on experiencing a similar demonstration of opposition, several *arbaletes*<sup>1</sup> were discharged at the Indians, who fled on witnessing the slaughter of their companions, and permitted the quiet landing of Columbus, who took formal possession of the island for his sovereign, Ferdinand of Spain.

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<sup>1</sup> Cross-bows.

4. Columbus named the island St. Jago (pronounced Santiago=*santeahgo*), in honour of St. James, the patron saint of Spain; but it has retained its original Indian name of Xaymaca, signifying, in the language of Florida, abundance of wood and water—hence it is often referred to as the Isle of Springs.

5. The Admiral remained ten days among the astonished natives, and then, on the 18th May, 1494, sailed for Cuba. On the 22nd June he again approached Jamaica, off Rio Bueno, and surveyed the coast (without landing) till the 20th August, when he reached San Miguel, now Cape Tiburon.

6. For eight years from this period nothing more was heard of Jamaica, and the peaceful Indians were yet a little while left in the tranquil occupation of their happy home. On the 14th July, 1502, Columbus, then on his fourth voyage, sailed from Hispaniola (Hayti) for Jamaica, but contrary and boisterous winds compelled his sheltering at Guanaja, or the isle of Pines.

7. The succeeding year saw the first European settlement on our present colony, the result of necessity rather than choice. Returning from the disastrous expedition to Veragua, Columbus (with his son and brother in two ships) was driven for shelter to Maxaca, on the S. coast of Cuba; whence, after imperfectly repairing his vessels, he again put to sea, but was forced by stress of weather, and in a sinking state, on an uninhabited part of the N. coast of Jamaica, where neither water nor provisions were procurable.

8. Once more the intrepid navigator turned his shattered prows to the faithless deep: the trade wind drove him down the coast to the westward, and at St. Ann's Bay, (called by the devout and weather-beaten mariner Santa Gloria), the sinking vessels were run on shore for the purpose of preserving the lives of the almost exhausted adventurers, who, protected by a reef of rocks, lashed the wrecks together, and beneath a canvas awning, found present shelter and repose.

9. Friendly communications were opened with the unsuspecting Indians, who supplied the shipwrecked seamen with

abundance of provisions in exchange for beads, bells, or other trifles. Columbus acted on the fears of the Indians by threatening them with the Divine vengeance unless his wants were all complied with ; and told them that an eclipse, which he knew was on the point of taking place, would be the signal of destruction.

10. Columbus despatched Diego Mendez, the secretary to the squadron, in company with a Genoese named Fieski, in two canoes (each furnished with six Castilians and ten Indians) to Ovando, the Governor of Hispaniola, then the capital of the Spanish western isles, distant 200 leagues from Jamaica, and with a strong adverse wind in their course.

11. Ovando, the Governor of Hispaniola, was the inveterate enemy of Columbus, and availed himself of the occasion of his rival's misfortune to heap insult and injury on the unfortunate Admiral ; a vessel was despatched from Hispaniola to mock the sufferers with condolence and ironical regrets of inability to afford assistance, the commander of the reconnoitering ship (which purposely lay outside the reefs of Santa Gloria) having been expressly selected on account of his being the personal enemy of Columbus.

12. The suffering Spaniards, under the impression that they were neglected by the Viceregal and Home Authorities by reason of their fidelity to Columbus, mutinied, at the instigation of the brothers Pooras (one a commander, and the other a military treasurer). Columbus was accused of witchcraft, and several attempts to assassinate him as he lay confined to his bed with the gout were only frustrated by the bravery and presence of mind of his brother Bartholomew.

13. The mutineers seized on ten canoes which the Admiral had been preparing, plundered the natives of provisions wherever they could be found, forced several to accompany them in their efforts to cross the sea to Hispaniola, and then threw the islanders overboard with their baggage, to lighten the fragile barques in which they several times endeavoured to gain the seat of supreme government.

14. When compelled to return by the storm to Jamaica, it was but to lay waste and destroy the unoffending Indians, and to make fresh attacks on Columbus and his faithful followers. At length, after losing several of their comrades in a battle with the Admiral's friends, headed by Diego Columbus, the renegades sued for permission to return to their allegiance.

15. A month later (28th June 1504), Columbus bade a final adieu to the Jamaica shores, in vessels prepared for his relief by Mendez and Fieski, whom he had despatched from Santa Gloria to Hispaniola and Spain (as before stated) soon after the shipwreck of his vessels.

16. The peaceful Indians were now left for a brief period in the quiet possession of their lovely isle, but in three years after the death of Christopher Columbus—*i.e.* in 1509—the Spanish Court divided the Darien Government between Alfonzo d'Ojeda, and Diego Nicuesa, authorizing them jointly and severally to make what use they pleased of the unoccupied island of Jamaica, as a garden whence provisions might be obtained, and as a nursery whence *slaves* might be procured to work in the mines.

17. The result of such orders, in such times, may be easily imagined. A contest arose between the provincial governors who should make the most of the unfortunate islanders and their country ; towns and villages were laid waste and burned ; the slightest resistance was revenged with indiscriminate slaughter ; the caciques, or chiefs, murdered in cold blood ; the women, who tempted the lust of the invaders, became victims to their sensuality ; tortures of the most infernal nature were resorted to for the purpose of forcing a discovery of that which the Spaniards eagerly thirsted for—gold ; and the adults and children of Jamaica who were not fortunate enough to escape to the recesses of the mountains, there to perish, or suffer from lingering famine, were borne away into captivity, to wear out a brief existence in the rayless mines, where their merciless oppressors sought wealth at an incalculable sacrifice of human life and misery.

18. While the rival governors, Diego and Nicuesa, were disputing about the adjudication of Jamaica, Diego Columbus (the son of the great navigator) stepped in to assert his prior claim, and accordingly despatched, in 1509, Don Juan d'Esquimel, with seventy men, to take possession of the island, and form a settlement at Santa Gloria (now Port Maria), a spot sacred to his filial affections, by reason of the shipwreck and sufferings of his father.

19. The seat of government was fixed on the banks of a small rivulet, termed Sevilla Nueva,<sup>1</sup> to commemorate the successful termination of his suit against the crown, as recently decided by the Council of the Indies; and Ferdinand, another son of Columbus, was despatched from Spain to establish a monastery, and assist in the extension of the new colony.

20. The unwarlike Indians did not long offer resistance to the government which they found disposed to settle amongst them; they sank by degrees into the condition of serfs and slaves, and were regarded as mere ministers to the pleasures of their white brethren, who had now become the sole possessors of the soil.

21. San Domingo, then in all its glory, graced by the presence of royal blood, and many of the nobility of Castile, and the seat of fashion in the New World, communicated its luxuriousness and taste to Sevilla Nueva (now called Sevilla d'Oro, from the gold brought thither by the natives), and a splendid city arose, rivalling in magnificence the towns of the mother country, but of which not a vestige remains, save the memory of the name,—the sugar estate, on the site of the former capital, being still termed Seville.

22. The chroniclers of the day represent the government of Don Juan d'Esquimel as mild in character towards the natives, and whom he encouraged in the culture of cotton, the introduction of the sugar cane, and the vine (claret was then made in Jamaica), which flourished in the virgin soil,

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<sup>1</sup> New Seville.

and fruitful valleys and savannahs of the island. The cotton wool was celebrated in commerce for its quality as well as quantity; and the beautiful fabrics woven therefrom by the Indians became a source of wealth to the Spaniards, which, if they had been attended to, would have proved of more lasting value than the precious metals; to the avaricious search for which everything else was sacrificed.

23. Unhappily for the Indians, the rule of Don Esquimel was brief; he died, and was buried at Sevilla d'Oro, the beautiful bay on the north side of the island (now called St. Ann's Bay). Don Esquimel bequeathed to posterity the remembrance of a name whose character offered a bright contrast to that of his sanguinary successors. Francisco de Garay, a Spaniard, who had long been a fortunate partner of the celebrated Diaz in the famed mine of St. Christopher, in Hispaniola, and whose insatiable avarice and cruelty were notorious, succeeded Esquimel as lieutenant of Diego Columbus in the government of Jamaica, which, in 1519 (ten years after its settlement), had risen so rapidly as to have been enabled to fit out three vessels, manned by two hundred and seventy men, to endeavour to take possession of a territory named Panuco, on the mainland.

24. In 1521, Sevilla d'Oro began to send off branches from the parent stock, and other new towns were founded—one on the Bay of Bluefields, named Oristan, from a place in Sardinia; the other, Melilla (supposed to be on the site where Marthæ-bræ now stands), so called after a small town in Barbary; and Puerto Esquivella, now called Old Harbour, where a ship-building yard had been established. The death of Diego Columbus (who, in 1523, had founded St. Jago de la Vega, or St. Jago of the Plains, to distinguish it from St. Jago de Cuba), in 1526, checked the improvement of the island; and the cruelties of the Governor, Don Pedro d'Esquimel—whom Las Casas declares to have been the greatest destroyer of the Indians—added to the destructive piratical warfare carried on by French corsairs, under the name of *Flibustiers*—all tended to cloud the rising and prosperity of Jamaica.



25. The intelligent author of the *Annals of Jamaica*, the Rev. G. W. Bridges, says that the consequence of such proceedings was, that the settlement of Oristan was destroyed in its infancy, Melilla was abandoned almost as soon as built, and the capital became the repeated prey of a lawless banditti. The erection of its buildings (many of them the creation of monastic munificence) was suspended—its trade interrupted—and such as were not bound by office to the seat of government deserted their half finished walls to seek a safer retreat in the southern districts of the island.

26. The *Jamaica Almanac* says that St. Jago de la Vega, or Spanish Town, was founded by Diego Columbus in 1523 ; but Mr. Bridges states its origin to have been owing to the affrighted Spaniards, who fled over the mountain range in 1538, in order to find a place of security from the plundering attacks of the French filibustiers, or corsairs ; while superstition suggested the name of the capital, under the impression that the patron saint of the island had been offended at the name (St. Jago) given by Columbus having been outlived by the native cognomen, Xaymaca, or Jamaica.

27. Security of person and property, the mainspring of national wealth and happiness, soon contributed to raise St. Jago de la Vega into a flourishing city : the neighbouring savannahs were quickly cultivated, the manufacture of sugar<sup>1</sup> rapidly extended, and, in sixteen years from its foundation (1555), the capital of Jamaica gave the title of Marquis to the grandson of the extraordinary mariner who may be truly said to have discovered a New World, for the purpose of stimulating into renewed energy the enterprize and intelligence of the Old.

28. The wars between Charles V. and Henry of France were carried on in America by the latter under piratical leaders ; and, after a desperate attack of the filibustiers, in 1554, who massacred all the inhabitants, sculptured arches and bare walls alone remained as evidence of the pristine splendour of the once celebrated city of Sevilla d'Oro. In

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<sup>1</sup> In 1523 there were thirty sugar mills in operation.

1558 it is stated that the native inhabitants of Jamaica had entirely perished. Gage, writing in 1637, says,—“This island was once very populous, but it is now almost destitute of Indians, for the Spaniards have slain in it more than 60,000 ; insomuch that women, as well here as on the continent, did kill their children before they had given them birth, that the issues of their bodies might not serve so cruel a nation.”

29. The Spaniards cultivated the lands in the neighbourhood of St. Jago de la Vega, by means of the few slaves which they were enabled to purchase. In 1580, owing to the junction of the crowns of Spain and Portugal, the territorial right of Jamaica was vested in the royal house of Braganza, and the Portuguese who emigrated to the island gave new life and vigour to the settlement. In 1587 Jamaica was so overrun with the breed of horned cattle, swine, and horses, originally imported from Hispaniola, that a considerable trade arose in provisions, lard, and hides ; the cultivation of sugar, which had been neglected after the destruction of Sevilla d'Oro, was resumed ; and ginger, tobacco, and other articles were added to the planter's commercial stock.

30. In 1605, the famed wealth of Jamaica led to a predatory incursion on the settlement by Sir Anthony Shirley, who was cruising in the neighbourhood with a large fleet, but the invaders retired after plundering only those parts of the island that were most accessible. Colonel or Captain William Jackson made a descent upon Jamaica in 1644, from the Windward Islands, at the head of five hundred men ; the Spaniards fought bravely at Passage Fort, but were beaten, and compelled to pay a large sum of money for the preservation of the capital.

31. Little or indeed nothing authentic is known of the internal history of the island up to the period of the British Conquest in 1655 ; the acquisitions of Spain on the Continent, and the vast quantity of precious metals thence derived, soon induced the neglect of the insular possessions of the mother country for the sake of the more showy but less substantial advantages derived from the conquest of Peru and Mexico.

All accounts, however, agree in representing the *Hidalgos*<sup>1</sup> of Jamaica as leading a life of slothful luxuriousness ; and for the latter fifty years the north side of the island had been abandoned, and allowed to be covered with dense woods.

32. The population at the time of the British Conquest was stated by Venables to be no more than 1,500 Spaniards and Portuguese, with about an equal number of Mulattoes and negro slaves ; and the higher class of inhabitants was composed of only eight families, who may be said to have divided the country between them into eight *hatos* or districts.

33. Cromwell, no less with a desire to rid himself of those disaffected towards his government, than with a hope of humbling the power of the Spanish Court, which favoured the restoration of Charles—aided by the popular feeling in England against the Spaniards for the condemnation of six hundred peaceable English settlers at St. Christopher's, to work in subterraneous bondage in the mines of Mexico in 1629— anxious to avenge the murder of a small English Colony who had quietly settled on the unoccupied island of Tortuga eight years after the peace of 1630, and a repetition of the same bloody tragedy twelve years afterwards at Santa Cruz, in which, as at Tortuga, even the women and children were put to the sword—and urged, moreover, by a desire to establish the maritime supremacy of England, by the foundation of colonies, and by putting an end to the exclusive right of navigating the American seas, as claimed by Ferdinand and Isabella—influenced, we say, by these and other motives, Cromwell fitted out a large armament, which he placed under the joint command of General Venables and Admiral Penn, with three controlling Commissioners, for the purpose of seizing on Hispaniola at the moment of declaring hostilities against Spain in Europe.

34. The expedition was hastily despatched, the ranks of the army filled from the gaols and prisons in England and Ireland, and the fleet so hurried out to sea that the store-ships were

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<sup>1</sup> Spanish Grandees

left behind. Barbadoes was the rendezvous for the expedition, which, to the number of 3,000 soldiers, including a troop of horse (raised at the expense of the Barbadians), with 30 sail of vessels, one half victuallers, departed from Barbadoes 31st March 1655.

35. At St. Christopher's the expedition was joined by 1,300 men, making, with those from Barbadoes, 5,000 volunteers, whose grand aim was the plunder of the Spaniards. The capture of Hispaniola was prevented by the vigilance of the Spaniards, who slew 600 of the English, wounded 300, and drove 200 into the woods. To make amends for this discomfiture, Jamaica was attacked by a force of 6,500 men on the 3rd of May 1655, after being one hundred and forty-six years in the possession of Spain. Little resistance was offered, negotiations were entered into for the British occupation, and skilfully prolonged by the Spaniards until the latter removed all their valuables, so that when St. Jago de la Vega was entered by the British forces, about ten days after the landing, nothing but bare walls was found. The inhabitants carried off all their goods to the mountains, where, aided by their slaves, and by occasional reinforcements from Cuba, they long held out, but after some years were gradually annihilated, pardoned, or permitted to emigrate.

36. Spain in 1658 vainly endeavoured to recover Jamaica. Some skill and energy would have enabled her to do so, owing to the disaffection and disorganization of the British army and occupants; but the rapid acquirement of wealth without the aid of industry, and almost solely by means of violence and craft, is as fatal to the strength and happiness of a nation as it is to that of an individual, and the Spanish government, after several unsuccessful efforts, abandoned all further prospects of re-possessioning themselves of the island.

37. During the early British occupation, much inconvenience and distress (as is the case in all infant settlements) were experienced. Some of the Spaniards and their negroes still occupied the mountains. This was the origin of the Maroons; and martial law was the sole iudicature for a series of years,

during which period little progress was made in cultivation, the soldiers being disinclined to turn their swords into ploughshares. Colonel D'Oyley, the Governor of Jamaica in 1661, wrote to Secretary Nicholas that a party of soldiers had just brought in from the mountains about 100 negroes, the remainder of some 2,000 who had infested the place since their arrival: he adds, "the soldiers have received no pay since they came."

38. It would appear that bloodhounds were now introduced into Jamaica, and not, as was supposed, for the first time by Lord Balcarras. The two following Jamaica orders respecting bloodhounds and Bibles afford a curious picture of the manners of the times:—August 14, 1656, "An order, signed Edward D'Oyley, for the distribution to the army of 1,701 Bibles." August 26, 1659, "Order issued this day unto Mr. Peter Pugh, Treasurer, to pay unto John Hoy the sum of twenty pounds sterling, out of the impost-money, to pay for fifteene doggs, brought by him for the hunting of the negroes."

39. Under the government of Colonel D'Oyley, Jamaica became the headquarters of the pirates, or buccaneers, who infested these seas, and derived inordinate wealth from the plunder of the Spanish colonies, and the fleets laden with the precious metals on their return to Europe. It is stated that the tables and household utensils of the colonists were of silver and gold, and their horses sometimes shod with the former metal, loosely nailed on, to indicate the abundance of riches, and contempt for slight losses of wealth.

40. Negro slaves appear to have been imported by the British in pursuance of the policy of their predecessors, and in 1659 the population of the island was rated at 4,500 whites, and 1,400 negroes. Of the white population a chief proportion must have been outlaws and soldiers; for, according to the Board of Trade and State Paper Office Records,—“two hundred of the rebels taken at Sedgemoor were transported to Jamaica.” In 1656 the Council of State in England voted that 1000 girls, and as many young men, should be *listed* in Ireland and sent to Jamaica. The troops in that year were

estimated at 4,500 foot and 800 horse. And the military strength of the island in 1662 consisted of five regiments, containing 2,083 men-at-arms.

41. That emigration from England began early is nevertheless correct. Sir Thomas Modyford, in a letter dated Jamaica, January 30th, 1664, mentions the number of settlers recently arrived at 987, of which 855 came from England, and the remainder from Barbadoes. At the Restoration Charles sought to allay the feuds existing between the Republican and Royalist parties in Jamaica; the restraints of martial law were abolished, Courts of Session formed, and a Council of twelve, elected by the inhabitants, convened to aid the government. A partial survey took place; 12 districts were marked out; laws framed by the council for the government of the island; and taxes levied for the maintenance thereof.

42. Every encouragement was held out to new planters; and the wise regulations of Cromwell, *exempting planters or 'adventurers' from paying excise or customs on any produce, &c. exported to Jamaica, or imported from thence into the dominions of the Commonwealth, for 10 years*, was allowed; together with the abolition of hindrance or impressment on ships or mariners bound for Jamaica.

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## CHAPTER II.—FROM 1662 TO 1710.

1. On the accession of Lord Windsor to the chief authority in September, 1662, a municipal government was formed; judges of session and magistracy appointed; the militia established; the island divided into seven parishes, and patents of land in free soccage granted. It is interesting to examine the origin of our colonial legislatures. According to a letter in the State Paper Office from Colonel (afterwards Sir Thomas) Modyford, dated Barbadoes, February 16th, 1651, addressed to Bradshaw (the regicide), the following suggestions occur relative to the island sending representatives to Parliament:—

"The great difficulty is, (which your wisdoms will easily overcome,) how we shall have a representative with you in your government and our parliament: to demand to have burgesses with yours to sit and vote in matters concerning England may seem immoderate; but to desire that two representatives be chosen by this island to advise and consent to matters that concern this place, I presume may be both just and necessary; for if laws be imposed upon us without our personall or implied consent, we cannot be accounted better than slaves, which, as all Englishmen abhorre to see, so I am confident you detest to have them. This is so cleare that I shall not need to enforce it with argument, neither enter upon particulars for the good of this place," &c. &c. It may be gathered from this that the home authorities preferred granting colonial legislatures to colonial representatives in the British Parliament.

2. In January, 1664, the first assembly of Jamaica was convened by the Lieutenant-Governor, Sir Charles Littleton, in conformity with the power of his commission from England. It consisted of 30 members, who chose a speaker (Mr. Robert Freeman) the 20th of January, and continued their sittings to the middle of February, then adjourned to May, and afterwards resumed them at Port Royal; thus dividing its sessions between the seats of government and trade.

3. This early establishment of a popular legislative assembly was attended with signal advantages; laws suited to the community were framed, taxes raised independent of the Governor and parent state, and the acts of Assembly were sent for confirmation to the King.

4. Disputes subsequently broke out between the Governor, Sir Thomas Modyford, and the House of Assembly; but those who appreciate the blessing of legislative representation in unison with taxation, will think lightly of differences between the party desiring the exercise of uncontrollable authority, when balanced by the calm and efficient power of a chamber freely elected by the intelligence and wealth of a community.

5. Of Colonel Samuel Long, who nobly opposed the

arbitrary measures of the Crown—endeavoured to be enforced through the then Governor, the Earl of Carlisle, in 1679—the following notice occurs in a paper in the Board of Trade:—Nov. 23, 1676, “His Excellency, Lord Vaughan, having acquainted the council of the present vacancy of the Chief Justice’s place, and that, in this emergency, he could not propose any other than Lieutenant-Colonel Samuel Long unto them, wherein his Lordship desired their advice, all unanimously declared that they were fully satisfied with the great abilities of Lieutenant-Colonel Long to perform and discharge the said trust and employment, and did approve of his Excellency’s choice.” This distinguished colonist died possessed of nearly 20,000 acres in Jamaica. His descendant, Mr. Edward Long, was the accomplished and learned author of the history of Jamaica.

6. For sixty-four years the House of Assembly of Jamaica carried on a noble contest to secure the means of defending itself against tyrannical acts on the part of the Crown, to control the expenditure of their own supplies, and to resist the imposition of a tax of  $4\frac{1}{2}$  per cent. on the gross produce of the island.

7. Up to 1670, when peace was ratified with Spain, Jamaica was the headquarters and rendezvous of all the pirates, corsairs, and buccaneers of the New World, encouraged by many of the Governors of Jamaica. Sir Thomas Lynch, in 1664, considered the calling in of the privateers “a remote and hazardous experiment.” “If they cannot get English commissions,” he says, “they will get French or Portuguese, although they be dangerous rogues.” Sir Thomas Modyford, in 1665, acknowledges the receipt of a letter from Lord Arlington, directing that “privateers be handled quietly for the future, and be reclaimed by degrees; encouraging them to return home and take service in H. M. fleet against the Dutch.” The celebrated, the notorious Morgan, as well as other bandits, contributed to pour a vast flood of wealth into Jamaica, the prize of their infamous marauding expeditions.

8 As the name of Morgan, the pirate, is so intimately



connected with the history of Jamaica, an island of which he subsequently became the chief authority, some account of him will be acceptable. This extraordinary adventurer was a native of Wales, born in 1635, of a junior branch of the great clan of the Morgans of Tredegar; but by daring courage, talents, and successes, became advanced to the dignity of Lieutenant-Governor of Jamaica. Having no inclination to follow his father's agricultural pursuits, Morgan bade him adieu, wandered to Bristol, and embarked for Barbadoes, where, according to the custom of the times, he bound himself as a servant, or sold his services, for the space of four years.

9. As soon, however, as he gained his freedom, Morgan went to Jamaica, where the temptations held out for the rapid acquirement of wealth induced him to join the West Indian buccaneers, who considered their pursuits legitimate because the Spaniards refused to be at peace with other nations within the tropics, where they asserted Englishmen had no right to settle. War was declared against the Spaniards, by beat of drum, at Port Royal, 27th February 1666; and Morgan, by his daring intrepidity, soon brought himself into notice, made several successful cruises, and secured a share of the spoil.

10. Seeing the excesses and improvidence of his companions, he profited by the example, and lived so moderately, that he soon amassed a sufficient sum of money to purchase a vessel, in conjunction with some of his comrades, who elected him their commander; and he returned to Port Royal with several prizes from the Bay of Campeche. Mansfeldt, the "prince of pirates," who was then preparing a formidable expedition against the Spaniards, pitched upon him to be his vice-admiral; and in a short time, with fifteen ships and five hundred men, he stormed and plundered the island of St. Catherine (Providence), thirty-five leagues from Chagres river; and, after various successes in different places, next proceeded, in 1668, with a fleet of nine ships and four hundred and sixty men, against Puerto Bello.

11. This city was defended by three castles, two of which

were so situated that no hostile boat could pass, and the town itself was well garrisoned. It was night when he arrived, and being acquainted with all the avenues to the city, he sailed in canoes up the river to Puerto Pontin, where he anchored, and, guided by one who had been a prisoner there, reached *Estera longa de Mar*, whence he marched to the outposts of the city. After securing the sentinel, he assailed the castle with such resistless impetuosity, that the Governor was compelled to submit.

12. Being unable to spare men to guard his prisoners, Morgan is accused by the Spaniards of having enclosed them all in a large dungeon, fired the magazine, and blown up the fortress with every Spaniard in it. They then forced the commandant of the city into the remaining fort, who vainly endeavoured, by an incessant cannonade, to prevent plundering of the town below; but it had no other effect than to urge them to make a quick and sanguinary despatch. The buccaneers rifled the churches and houses, and stormed the castle at the very mouth of its guns. The carnage of this nocturnal conflict was dreadful.

13. After performing prodigies of valour, Morgan's men became dispirited and faint; but their courage was restored by seeing the English colours waving over the third and only remaining castle, which another party of these desperadoes had successfully stormed. Our hero commanded the prisoners they had taken from the religious houses, at the point of the sword, to place the scaling ladders against the walls. The Spanish soldier's duty prevailed over his superstition, and many of the *religieuse* were slain. The pirates, however, mounted the ladders, and the Spaniards, throwing down their arms, begged for mercy. The commandant alone refused to yield, and nobly met his fate in the presence of his wife and daughter.

14. Every species of excess marked the footsteps of the remorseless conquerors during fifteen successive days. A ransom of 100,000 pieces-of-eight<sup>1</sup> was demanded for the

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<sup>1</sup> Half Doubloon, or Eight Pesos = £1 13s. 4d., called a piece-of-eight.

preservation of the town, and paid. After levelling the redoubts which had been raised by the Spaniards, and dismounting their guns, the buccaneers returned to Jamaica with a ransom and plunder of 250,000 pieces-of-eight<sup>1</sup> and much merchandise. The chroniclers of the day narrate that, on the sea shore at Port Royal, plate, jewels, and other rich effects were literally piled beneath the eaves of the houses for the want of warehouse room. But this immense wealth was soon transferred to others; and the pirates, reduced almost to starvation, constrained their captain to put to sea again, after a few short weeks of riotous debauchery.

15. Morgan was now at the head of a thousand desperate fellows, and a fleet of fifteen vessels; to which was added, it is said, the *Oxford* frigate, commanded by Captain E. Collier, sent by Charles II. to aid in the war against the Spaniards. The fleet rendezvoused at the Isle de Vache, in Hispaniola; and Sir William Beeston and Esquemeling relate the following almost incredible circumstance:—A council of war was held on board the *Oxford* on the 2nd January 1669. The captains remained to dinner, and, while feasting, the frigate, “by some unknown accident, blew up at once, and killed two hundred and fifty men.” “Admiral Morgan, and those captains who sat on that side of the table that he did, were saved; but those captains on the other side were killed.”

16. This misfortune prevented an attack on Carthagena; but Macaicubo, with Gibraltar (on the Spanish main), was again sacked, and the inhabitants underwent the same cruel torture they experienced at the hands of Solonnois. Failing, however, in this attempt to plunder them, the pirates, wearied and vexed at their unusual ill fortune, retreated from the town. They were waited for by the Spaniards, who were prepared with three men-of-war to obstruct their passage from the lake; and even in this dilemma, when life and

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<sup>1</sup> £833,333, 6s. 8d.

death were in the event, Morgan's courage alone remained unshaken.

17. He contrived a fire-ship with such ingenuity that it was impossible for the enemy to recognise her as such. With this he destroyed one of their vessels—the second ran on shore, and the remaining one became an easy prey to the pirates. But though he had destroyed their fleet, the castle, which they must pass, was impregnable. In vain did he resort to his usual practice in exposing the nuns and friars they had taken prisoners upon the deck, to restrain their countrymen from firing. Finding it utterly useless, he had recourse to a wily stratagem.

18. He withdrew out of the reach of the guns, and filling his boats with men, they were ordered to row ashore, as if with the design of landing; but, instead of doing so, they concealed themselves at the bottom of the boats, and the boats returned apparently with only two or three men. After doing this several times, the Spaniards, thinking they were going to attack the Castle from the land, removed their guns from the sea-side to the ramparts, leaving the former almost defenceless. The pirates then, by moonlight, dropped down with the tide; when opposite the fort, spread every inch of canvas, and saluted the mortified Spaniards as they passed with a few shots, which the Governor, completely outwitted, was unable to return. Thus again was Jamaica deluged with wealth, and benefited by the prodigality of the pirates.

19. Morgan's reputation was now so great that he was joined by several young men of family from England. After a few months' peace, war was again proclaimed (2nd July 1670) at Port Royal, against the Spaniards. Morgan received a commission from the Governor to harass the enemy, and sailed with a fleet of thirty-seven sail, carrying two thousand men-at-arms, besides large crews of good sailors. St. Catherine was recaptured, and kept as a place of retreat. Morgan's vice-admiral (Broadly), with four ships and four hundred men, gained possession (after losing one hundred men in killed and wounded) of the town and castle of Chagres.

20. Morgan next sailed to Panama, which, after a desperate conflict, he succeeded in taking possession of ; but it, by some accident, took fire, and continued burning several days. Vast quantities of molten gold and silver were found encrusted on the very pavements of the town, and the worth of millions was collected from the wells and fountains, where it had been hastily concealed. With one hundred and seventy-five mules, richly laden with gold, silver, and jewels, Morgan arrived at Chagres. There he made a division of the spoil ; but his crew, suspecting him of fraud in the partition, mutinied, and he was glad to escape with two or three ships and 400,000 pieces-of-eight in specie, with which he arrived in Jamaica.

21. Morgan now gave up his depredations, retired into private life, purchased a plantation, lived upon and improved it, and so effectually recommended himself to public favour, that he was made a naval commander in the service of his king, obtained the honour of knighthood, became President of the Council of Jamaica, and thrice filled the office of Lieutenant-Governor. According to some chronicles, the pusillanimity of the British Court, and Morgan's Spanish enemies, however, prevailed so far as to procure a letter from the Secretary of State, ordering him a prisoner to England, where his robust constitution, which the numberless trials to which he had been exposed could not impair, sunk beneath unmerited disgrace.

22. Others assert that, after remaining three years without a hearing, he was released, and returned to Port Royal, where he lived in comfortable retirement, much beloved, and died on the 26th August 1668,—leaving a name which struck terror into Spain, and which records exploits rarely equalled in the annals of British courage.

23. To return to the history of the island. In 1670 the total white population was 15,198,—the militia muster-rolls exhibiting an internal strength of 2,720 men, and the British seamen about the island being 2,500 strong. Fifty-seven sugar works, yielding annually 1,710,000 lbs. of sugar ; forty-seven cocoa walks, giving 180,000 lbs. of chocolate nuts :

and forty-nine indigo works, producing 49,000 lbs. of dye, attested the prosperity of the island. The indigenous pimento afforded an export annually of 50,000 lbs. ; 10,000 bushels of salt were produced from three salt-pans ; in six years 60 tame cattle had increased to 60,000, and sheep, goats, and tame hogs were innumerable ; cotton, tobacco, armotto, and other articles were being attended to ; and, in the brief space of fourteen years, amidst numberless misfortunes abroad and at home, Jamaica exhibited a wonderful progress in colonial prosperity.

24. Sir Thomas Lynch, on his arrival as governor in 1671, put an end to the privateering system, and directed the attention of the colonists to the more permanently profitable means of obtaining wealth by agriculture and commerce. The Assembly (consisting of eighteen representatives) was convened, and the revenue fixed as follows :—Land at Port Royal, one halfpenny per foot ; cleared land and savanna, one penny per acre ; license to sell liquor, 40s. per annum ; brandy and spirits imported, 6d. per gallon ; Portuguese and Spanish wines, £4 per ton ; beer, 30s. per ton, and rum at 40s. ditto ; British ships, 1s. per ton anchorage ; foreign, double ; the salary of the Governor or Commander-in-Chief fixed at £1000 per annum ; £400 to the Lieutenant-Governor ; £200 to the Major-General ; £80 to the Chief-Justice ; £20 to every Judge, and £10 to his assistant.

25. According to documents in the State Paper Office, the Assembly in 1671 consisted of eighteen representatives ; and in 1674 Mr. Cranfield, in reply to some queries from His Majesty, stated that the Council of Jamaica consisted of twelve gentlemen. The Assembly of Representatives were elected by the free-holders, two from every parish, except from St. Jago and Port Royal, which had the privilege of choosing three.

26. A Chief Court of Judicature sat at St. Jago, sitting every three months, with appeals to the Governor as Chancellor ; with six inferior courts in different parts of the island, sitting every month, and holding pleas not exceeding £20, except by Justices, and these of any sum whatever. Quarter

Sessions, according to the custom of England, were held in every precinct, and an Admiralty Court was established. The domestic armed force of the island consisted of one regiment of cavalry, 500 strong, and the infantry regiments, containing 5000 men.

27. The administration of Lord Vaughan, commencing in 1677, was termed indulgent, steady, and impartial; but the conduct of his successor, the Earl of Carlisle, has been censured as weak, petulant, and tyrannical. His efforts to induce the Colonial Assembly to surrender its independence were happily attended with discomfiture. Sir Henry Morgan, the Lieutenant-Governor, in a letter dated 1681, says that the north side of the island had then only been settled five years. The first proof of the impolicy of slave labour was shewn by a serious insurrection of the negroes, which, however, was speedily suppressed.

28. In 1686 the extensive immigration of Jews gave renewed commercial stimulus to the island; but the sectarian Popish zeal of the Duke of Albemarle, who, to save him from starving in England, was appointed by James II. Governor of Jamaica, temporarily checked the happiness and prosperity of the islanders. He arrived in 1687, bringing with him Father Churchill, a Romish priest, and Doctor Hans Sloane, the great naturalist, as his medical attendant. It was not long before this nobleman and the Assembly were in open antagonism. He dissolved the House suddenly because one of the members, in a debate, repeated the old adage, *Salus populi suprema lex*, and had the offender taken into custody and fined £600. Writs were issued for another Assembly. The freedom of election was grossly violated by the Duke, who admitted hosts of servants and discharged seamen to the poll, and imprisoned many legal voters of wealth and consideration. He imposed fines on the latter to a large amount, and threatened to whip two gentlemen for requesting a *habeas corpus* for their friends. Soon after, the flight of James II. and the proclamation of William and Mary were announced. The colonists represented their case, and received redress.

29. In May 1690 the Earl of Inchiquin arrived as governor, with instructions to ship to England the sufferers from the field of Sedgmoor ; and the whole body of "sold-out rebels" arrived in England on the anniversary of the day on which they had been sent as convicts to Jamaica. War then existed between England and France, and freebooters were making depredations on the seaside plantations of Jamaica. In retaliation, the Earl despatched the *Severn* and *Guernsey* men-of-war to attack the French settlements in Hispaniola ; and just about the time of his death these vessels returned with valuable prizes to Port Royal, then "the finest town in the West Indies, and the richest spot in the universe."

30. On the 7th June 1692, the Great Earthquake occurred, which almost destroyed this opulent city. Whole streets with their inhabitants were swallowed up by the opening of the earth, which, as it closed again, crushed the people to death, and in that manner several were left with their heads above ground. Parts of the land sank under water. The harbour was covered with dead bodies of people of all conditions. Burial places were destroyed, and carcases washed out of the graves. Of 3,000 houses, about 200, with Fort Charles, remained uninjured. The whole island felt the shock. Chains of hills were riven asunder ; new channels formed for rivers ; mountains removed with a mighty crash, burying alive the people of the adjacent valleys ; whole settlements sunk into the bowels of the earth ; plantations were removed *en masse*, and the sugar works destroyed. At Yallahs a mountain divided. Part of it fell into the vale below, overwhelming several settlements ; the other half of the mountain still presents a verdureless face, and is known as Judgment Cliff. The principal plantation at the foot of the mountain, where every soul perished, and its site was unrecognizable, was owned by an atrociously licentious and wicked Dutchman, who even in prosperity was shunned by his neighbours.

31. The earthquake at Port Royal was followed by a pestilence which slew thousands of the survivors. Many then removed to the lower part of Liguanea, St. Andrews, which was



afterwards laid out as a town by Colonel Christian Lilly, of the Royal Engineers. At Green Bay there is still the tomb of Lewis Galdy, "who was swallowed up by the earthquake, and by the providence of God was by another shock thrown into the sea, and miraculously saved by swimming until a boat took him up. He lived many years after in great reputation, beloved by all who knew him, and much lamented at his death."

32. As terror subsided after the earthquake, new houses were erected, and the place, under the privateering system of the time, began again to flourish ; but in the beginning of the year 1703 a fire broke out at one of the crowded warehouses, where a quantity of gunpowder was lodged, and in a few hours the whole town was in flames. With the exception of the Royal Forts and Magazine, not a building was left. Notwithstanding these occurrences, a number of persons who had left Port Royal returned to it, and began its re-establishment. New houses were built, and trade began to be restored ; but on the 22nd August 1722, a storm passed over the town, which swept the greater portions of the buildings into the sea, and destroyed a number of lives. Of fifty vessels which were in Port Royal harbour on that day, four men-of-war and two merchant ships alone rode out the storm, but with all their masts and booms blown away.

33. This further calamity was in time forgotten, and Port Royal was again crowded with houses, and enriched by the profitable trade caused by war, in which Great Britain was then engaged ; when, on the 13th July 1815, about midday, a fire broke out, which in a few hours destroyed nearly the whole place, including the Naval Hospital, and left many of the inhabitants utterly destitute. A subscription was set on foot for their relief, which was liberally responded to, Kingston alone subscribing £11,000. Since the occurrence of the fire in 1815, the town has ceased to be a commercial centre, and is now almost exclusively a naval station. The Imperial Government have purchased nearly all the lands, and extended and improved their establishments.

34. In the following year (1693) Sir William Beeston, Knt., formerly Colonel Beeston, arrived as Lieutenant-Governor. In May 1694, intelligence of a projected invasion of the island, in the interests of the fugitive king, was communicated to him; and on the 17th June a French fleet, commanded by Admiral Du Casse, came in sight. They landed detachments at Cow Bay and Port Morant, and destroyed fifty plantations. By horrid atrocities they secured a large amount of money and other valuables. The squadron took several merchant ships, and carried off 1300 slaves. They then sailed for Carlisle Bay, but there they were met by the colonial militia, who bravely encountered and eventually defeated them, driving them back to their ships with the loss of 700 men. The sale of the slaves kidnapped realized £65,000 to the captors.

35. In July 1702 war was again declared by England against France, and Admiral Benbow sailed from Port Royal in search of the French fleet under Du Casse, and on the 19th August fell in with it off Santa Martha. Benbow was defeated, and taken to Kingston, where he died from the effects of a wound in his leg.

36. In the following January Colonel Thomas Handesyd (afterwards Major-General) was appointed Governor. There were eight Assemblies and fifteen Sessions within the eight years of his administration. The Governor, in proroguing the last of these Assemblies, declared that their conduct reminded him of "a party of barbarous people who took off the head of Charles I., of ever blessed memory." Among the revenue bills of this period was one levying a poll-tax of ten shillings on every white person above the age of fifteen.

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### CHAPTER III.—FROM 1711 TO 1830.

1. In July, 1711, Admiral Lord Archibald Hamilton arrived as Governor. He was directed in the royal instructions not to pass any law for a shorter period than

twelve months. This was in consequence of the habit of the Assembly to limit their money bills to three months, "under a jealous apprehension of the Council's interference or the Governor's intemperance." The differences between the Governor and the Assembly were as fierce during this administration as during that of Colonel Handesyd, and culminated in the Governor's refusing to receive any more messages from the House. Lord Hamilton was recalled, and Mr. Peter Heywood, a planter, succeeded to the government. He was directed not to pass any law that should repeal a law confirmed by the crown without a suspension clause, or first transmitting the draft of the bill to the Secretary of State.

2. In April 1718, Sir Nicholas Lawes, another planter, became Governor. He endeavoured to conciliate all parties, but the publication of a libel by Mr. James Wood, the clerk of the Council, on the Assembly, led to the renewal of the political conflicts. The libel was in defence of Lord Hamilton. An interchange of intemperate messages between the Council and the Assembly ended in the determination of each party to have no further communication with the other,—the last message from the Assembly being thrown off the council table by one of the members of the board, and trampled beneath his feet. This led to a dissolution of the Assembly. In the following year the legislative brawls were continued, and five members were expelled by the Assembly "for having urged that the House had fallen by the Speaker remaining in the chair without a quorum." The House was again dissolved.

3. The interruption to the progress of public business involved the government so much in debt, that its bills were at a discount of 50 per cent. ; and even the expenses incident on the trial of some pirates could not be defrayed. The rebellious negroes also harassed the country, and appeared in such force that it became necessary to summon the aid of the Mosquitto Indians. A party of them arrived under the conduct of their king, but the want of money obstructed even that important service. The "Picaroons" from Cuba

also made frequent invasions on the unprotected coasts. The house of the proprietor of a considerable settlement on the beach of St. Ann was one night surrounded, and set on fire in all directions, and in the morning nothing was seen but the smoking ruins of the building, in which sixteen human beings had been burnt to ashes. Under the above-mentioned circumstances a new Assembly was called ; but on their meeting, instead of proceeding with the revenue bills, they resumed a former contest with the Attorney-General, who had been expelled from the House for being a "Papist." Another dissolution ensued.

4. While the colony was suffering from these political dissensions, a dreadful hurricane occurred, which ruined so many properties, destroyed so many lives, and reduced the survivors to such disasters, that Sir Nicholas Lawes had to convene a new Assembly, that some relief might be administered to the unfortunate sufferers. "Yet so inadequate was the revenue to meet even the ordinary exigencies of the government, that the patriotic Governor literally sold his house and lands to discharge the debts contracted by his official establishment."

5. The Duke of Portland arrived as Governor in December 1722, and endeavoured, without success, to secure a permanent revenue bill. Pending the settlement of this question, for four years the revenue of the island was granted under provisional enactments. During the controversies that distracted the community, the Assembly expelled another Attorney-General, Mr. Monk, for "an infringement of the liberties of the people." The Duke of Portland died in July 1726, and was succeeded by Major-General Robert Hunter as Governor. Before his arrival he had made himself acquainted with the state of the colony, and urged its distress on the attention of His Majesty's ministers. In recompense for these early services, the Assembly increased his salary from the £5,000 paid the Duke of Portland to £6,000 per annum. The long agitated revenue bill was passed, under which a permanent revenue of £8000 per annum was granted to the crown. In return the King confirmed all the laws which up to that time

remained unassented to, and decreed that "all such laws and statutes of England as have been at any time esteemed, introduced, used, accepted, or received as laws in this island, shall, and are hereby declared to be and continue laws of this His Majesty's Island of Jamaica for ever."

6. During the legislative dissensions above referred to, the Maroons had grown so formidable, under a very able leader named "Cudjoe," that it became necessary to increase the military strength of the colony, and to erect extra barracks. Every barrack was provided with a pack of dogs by the churchwardens of the parish, to guard against surprises at night, and for tracking the enemy in the mountain fastnesses. In 1734 Captain Stoddart attacked the Maroons at their windward town called "Nanny," situated on one of the highest points of the Blue Mountains, and completely destroyed or routed the whole body. Many were killed in their habitations, and several threw themselves headlong down the precipice. But the Maroons rallied, and were soon again prepared for battle. Two hundred seamen and three or four hundred of the militia reinforced the military, and penetrated almost to the new Maroon settlement. The insurgents attacked the troops on all sides, and for a time it seemed equally impossible for the latter to advance or retreat. At length they effected their escape, leaving behind a number of killed and wounded. This greatly increased the alarm and insecurity that everywhere prevailed.

7. Governor Trelawney arrived on the 30th April 1738, and his first act was to conciliate the mountaineers. He commissioned Colonel John Guthrie (late of the Darien Expedition) to meet the chiefs of Maroons, and negotiate with them a treaty of peace. Two thousand five hundred acres of land were assigned them in different parts of the island, and perfect freedom was granted them and their successors. They were required to aid the government in repelling invasions, and in suppressing internal rebellion. Two European superintendents were appointed to reside amongst them, and "Captain Cudjoe" was confirmed as chief commander.

8. War was declared by England against Spain in October 1739, in consequence of the "unjust seizures and depredations that had been carried on in the West Indies by the Spanish guardacostas," and Jamaica furnished contingents of volunteers to assist in the operations against the Spanish-American possessions. Porto Bello and Chagres were successively attacked and surrendered, but every other attempt at subjugation resulted in utter failure. The British commanders returned to England, and the expedition was abandoned. In the October following a dreadful storm and earthquake occurred. Port Royal again suffered. All the fortifications were injured, and that at Mosquito Point was destroyed. The streets were deluged with water, and the inhabitants, all through the dreary night, were looking for instant death. But the greatest injuries occurred at Savanna-la-Mar. "The sea, bursting its ancient limits, overwhelmed that unhappy town, and swept it to instant destruction, leaving not a vestige of man, beast, or habitation behind."

9. Governor Trelawney retired from the government in November 1751, and Vice-Admiral Knowles (afterwards Baronet) was sworn into office as Governor. During the early part of his administration the Assembly claimed the right of appointing their own officers to administer the duties of the Public Treasury, and of the passing of all laws without suspension clauses, whether they affected the prerogative of the Crown or not. These demands led to a protracted and bitter disagreement between the Executive and the Assembly, and to the ultimate decision of the House of Commons "that the resolution of the Assembly was illegal, repugnant to the terms of the King's commission to his Governor, and derogatory of the rights of the Crown and people of Great Britain." The Assembly was dissolved, and the new House was directed by the Governor to meet him in Kingston. The summons was complied with, but the Assembly refused to pass a bill for transferring the seat of government to Kingston, and was again dissolved. Other dissolutions ensued, but the required measure was at length passed and assented to by the Governor.

It was subsequently disallowed by the king, and Governor Knowles was burnt in effigy.

10. Just before the Easter of 1760 a formidable rebellion broke out amongst the slaves in the parish of St. Mary. They seized the fort at Port Maria, and possessed themselves of the arms, ammunition, and other stores. The white inhabitants of the neighbouring properties were all butchered, and the insurgents retired to Ballard's Valley, where, however, they were met by a body of volunteers and driven into the woods. Martial law was proclaimed, and two regiments of regulars and a large body of militia were ordered to the scene of action. The insurgents fought with desperate fury, and were at first successful; but they were ultimately surrounded and overpowered. More than 400 were killed in the field; one of the ringleaders was burnt, and two were hung in chains. About 600 were transported to the Bay of Honduras.

11. Two years after (1762) Governor William Henry Lyttleton arrived from South Carolina, and assumed the government, in succession to Lieutenant-Governor Moor. Governor Lyttleton brought with him intelligence of the declaration of war between England and Spain, and shortly after an expedition sailed from Port Royal against Havannah, which was besieged and captured. Jamaica contributed a subsidiary force. Booty to the value of two millions sterling, exclusive of an immense artillery, with twelve sail-of-the line and a fleet of merchantmen, rewarded the gallant exploit. The wealth of the colony was hourly increased by the rich prizes which again poured their glittering treasures on its shores.

12. In October peace was proclaimed, and the Assembly resumed their political discords. The Governor, as chancellor, granted a writ of *habeas corpus* and released from prison one Wilson, a marshal's deputy, who had been committed to gaol by the Assembly for a breach of privilege in levying on the carriage horses of Mr. Oliphant, a member, for debt. The House refused to grant the supplies until reparation was made. Three dissolutions ensued, but the House adhered to

their determination. Eventually Governor Lyttleton applied to the Imperial Government for power to draw upon the British Treasury for the subsistence of the troops, so as to be relieved of the necessity for supplies from the Assembly. The application was granted, but the Governor was recalled, and Rodger Hope Elleston appointed Lieutenant-Governor.

13. By command of the King in council, and in presence of the Council and Assembly, he caused a *vacatur* to be entered on the margin of the proceedings in the case of Wilson. Four years after an application was made by the Imperial Government for the refunding of the thirty thousand pounds which Governor Lyttleton had drawn from the British Treasury to pay the troops. The Assembly refused payment, and, in an address to the throne, urged that compliance on their part "would enable the Governor of Jamaica, in concert with any future wicked or despotic administration in Great Britain, to intermit Assemblies at pleasure; to suspend their legislative rights, and to burden the people of the island to their latest posterity in the most grievous, arbitrary and oppressive manner, without bounds and without remedy." The objections of the Assembly prevailed, and the claim was abandoned by the Imperial Government.

14. In 1777 another outbreak among the slaves disturbed the tranquillity of the island. A conspiracy to murder all the white colonists was discovered in the parishes of Hanover and Westmoreland, just as it was about to be put into execution. So great was the consternation that a homeward bound fleet of more than one hundred ships was detained for some days. The ready assistance offered by the Navy, with the active support of the militia, restored peace; and the ringleaders of the conspiracy, thirty in number, were executed.

15. In March of the following year the French recognised the independence of the "United States," and war was declared by England. D'Estaing, with a fleet of thirty-six ships of the line, sailed for the West Indies. Martial law was proclaimed in Jamaica, and additional fortifications were thrown up on all sides. A militia trained and armed started



into existence, which the ordinary laws had never been able to collect. The capital was guarded by the St. Catherine's Regiment, while the regular troops were reserved for more important duties, and everywhere the colonial corps displayed great enthusiasm. Dominica, St. Lucia, Grenada, and St. Vincent, fell into the hands of the French ; but no attack was made on Jamaica, and the hostile fleet was ultimately withdrawn. But Spain having in the meantime joined France in her conflict with England, Governor Dalling despatched an expedition against San Juan de Nicaragua, to which Jamaica supplied a contingent of 1,379 men. Nelson (afterwards the renowned hero of Trafalgar), who was then governor of Fort Charles, left his post and accepted a subordinate command. The castle was captured, but disease made sad havoc among the besiegers. More than two-thirds perished in the swamps, and the remnant returned to Port Royal broken in spirits and in health. Nelson was carried ashore prostrated by malarial fever, and narrowly escaped death.

16. In April, 1782, occurred the great victory of Rodney over the French fleet under Count de Grasse, while on its way to effect a junction with the Spanish fleet, preparatory to the invasion of Jamaica. "From all quarters the people assembled for the defence of their capital ; the largest trees of the forest were thrown across the roads, and the soldiers were relieved by the diligence of the people, who watched while they slept, and laboured while they reposed." When, therefore, news of the victory of Rodney was received, the entire population joined in the most extravagant manifestations of joy, and throughout the island the people once more breathed freely. The militia were relieved from active service, and the King thanked them for their spirited exertions in the defence of "his valued and important colony." Rodney was raised to the peerage, and a marble statue by Bacon was erected in the square of Spanish Town to perpetuate his name. Peace between Great Britain, France, Spain, and the thirteen United States of North America, was proclaimed in the following year.

17. Three years later the last of five destructive hurricanes occurred. The number of negroes who perished by famine, in consequence of this succession of hurricanes and the restriction of trade with the United States, was estimated at 15,000. In November, 1789, the Council and Assembly met in conference for the purpose of protesting against Mr. Wilberforce's scheme for the suppression of the slave trade. Their joint claim for compensation was embodied in a memorial which was presented to the British Parliament. The value of the island, considered as British property, was then estimated at thirty-nine millions sterling, of which twelve millions and a half was the value of the 250,000 slaves then working as agricultural labourers and otherwise.

18. The democratic doctrines which had for some time been manifesting themselves in France eventually extended to St. Domingo, and a sanguinary revolution broke out there in the fall of 1789. Jamaica, from its proximity to that island, became the resort of many of the proprietors, who had to flee with their devoted slaves from the barbarity of the revolutionists, and the treachery of the French commissioners. This emigration was perilous to the contentment and good order of the Jamaica slaves. In December, 1799, a conspiracy among the negroes who came from St. Domingo with their masters was discovered. A spy named Joseph San Portas was hanged, and upwards of 1,000 of the negroes were transported; besides which there were strong reasons for believing that revolutionary action was meditated by the republicans on this island. In this state of alarm protective measures were demanded by the colonists, and adopted by the local government. Admiral Affleck stationed ships of war along the coast nearest the expected scene of action; a military force was quartered upon each vessel, and the island was guarded by its militia to the water's edge.

19. While these precautions against rebellion and invasion were being maintained, Lieutenant-Governor Williamson received orders from the King's ministers to send a military force to St. Domingo, to "accept terms of capitulation from

the inhabitants of such parts of the island as solicited the protection of the British Government." The command was quickly acted upon, but the British, instead of being received with acclamation, as they anticipated, met with opposition and hostility in every quarter. They captured Jeremie, Mole St. Nicholas, Tiburon, St. Marc, and Port-au-Prince ; but their victory was death to the victors. Yellow fever in its most malignant form appeared in the ranks of the invading army, and more than decimated it. In this state of things Lieutenant-Governor Williamson organised in Jamaica large bodies of negro troops, who, it was supposed, would successfully withstand the unhealthy climate of Port-au-Prince and the other conquered towns. With these new levies he himself proceeded to St. Domingo, with the title of "Governor-General," but all was in vain. Treachery, disappointment, disease, and death had done their baneful work, and at the close of 1798, General Maitland, who had succeeded to the command, entered into a treaty with Toussaint l'Ouverture, and left the island with the perishing remnant of the British army. Williamson's negro regiments were disbanded in St. Domingo, and numbers of them joined the revolutionists.

20. While these operations were proceeding in the neighbouring island, a second Maroon war was exciting the fears of the colonists of Jamaica. The Trelawny Town Maroons had expelled an obnoxious superintendent from their settlement, and the Earl of Balcarres had marched fifteen hundred chosen European soldiers and three thousand of the colonial militia to subdue them. On the 12th of August 1795, a detachment of 400 men, under the command of Colonel Sandford, was despatched to destroy some of their provision grounds, but they found everything already uprooted. The detachment thereupon attempted to rejoin the main body by traversing a defile, but they were met by volley after volley from unseen hands. Colonel Sandford, Quarter-master McBride, and a number of non-commissioned officers and privates of the 18th Dragoons and the 20th Regiment of Foot, and Colonel Gallimore and "a number of respectable gentle-

men of the militia," were killed, while scores of others were wounded. The forests which skirted Trelawny Town were then cleared by a thousand slaves, and the artillery shelled the interior.

21. The Maroons withdrew to their subterranean retreats, and reappeared higher up the hills. Colonel Fitch, with a party of the 83rd Regiment, attempted to penetrate the forests for the purpose of extending their posts, and were accompanied by a body of Accompong Maroons, who remained faithful to the Government. The troops again fell into ambuscade, and Colonel Fitch, and Captain Brissett of Fort Charlotte, and a number of the rank and file of the 83rd Regiment, were killed. Captains Leigh and Burnt of the same Regiment, the superintendent of the Accompong Maroons, and several others, were wounded. In the third important encounter of the Government troops with the mountaineers, the militia took the leading part, and Captain Dunbar and several of the colonial corps were killed. In the dark recesses of the woods the Maroons kept up their fire, and as night was coming on the militia had to retire.

22. These successes of the Maroons created anxieties and perplexities on the part of the colonists, during which it was suggested to resort to the use of bloodhounds to hunt down the fugitives. Colonel Quarrel of the militia was commissioned to obtain a supply from Cuba, and on the 14th December he landed at Montego Bay, with 40 chasseurs and 100 dogs. These strange auxiliaries were at once marched to the scene of rebellion, where an accident demonstrated the ferocity of their nature. "One of the hounds was unmuzzled by his chasseur-master to allow him to drink. A woman, a sutler of the camp, who was then preparing a mess for the escort, menaced the dog off with a stick as he passed near by. Instantly the dog seized her by the throat, and so tore her that she died,—the dog being disengaged from his hold only by cutting off his head." The story of this incident soon found its way into the mountain fastnesses, and inspired the warriors with more alarm than did the cannon and muskets of the

soldiery. The Maroons hastened to capitulate, and in June 1796 upwards of five hundred men, women, and children were transported to Nova Scotia. From thence they were sent to Sierra Leone, where they formed the nucleus of that thriving colony. Two years later another disturbance broke out in the vicinity of the last rebellion—the insurgents being the run-away slaves who infested the lower regions of the Trelawny Mountains. They rushed upon the neighbouring settlements, burnt down houses, murdered the inhabitants, and committed other excesses. Two thousand soldiers and six thousand militia, besides a party of Accompong Maroons, marched against the rebels, and they were soon hunted down and defeated.

23. Notwithstanding these occurrences, the colonists raised, by voluntary subscription amongst themselves, the sum of one million pounds sterling, to aid the mother country in its war against revolutionary France. Yet, three years after (1801), the Imperial Government demanded of the Assembly the maintenance of a military force of 5,000 men (afterwards reduced to 3,000), on the ground that the colony “had not yet contributed its full proportion to the general expenses of the empire.” The Assembly refused, “on the constitutional principle that the right of the colony to protection was at least as great as that of any other portion of the British empire.” It was not long, however, before the colony had again to make extensive provision for its protection against invasion. In 1804 war was proclaimed against France and Spain, and the bravest admirals of Europe displayed their flags amidst the islands of the Caribbean Sea. On the 1st April, 1805, intelligence was received that a French squadron was on its way to Jamaica, and martial law was at once proclaimed. All the public records were removed to the church in St. Thomas-in-the-Vale, and deposited there under a militia guard.

24. The French fleet having been closely pursued by the British squadron, withdrew after an attack on Dominica; but on the 25th May the combined fleet of France and Spain

arrived at Martinique. They were closely pursued by Lord Nelson, with ten sail-of-the-line and three frigates, and chased out of these waters. Early in the following year (1806) the British had a brilliant victory over the French, off St. Domingo, and the captured prizes were brought into Port Royal. The Assembly voted £3,000 to Sir J. T. Duckworth, the successful admiral, for the purchase of a service of plate, in addition to a thousand pounds which had already been granted to him for the purchase of a sword. The citizens of Kingston, in public meeting, protested against this wanton and improvident expenditure of the public money, and the editors of the newspapers in which the resolution was published were taken into custody for a breach of the privileges of the House. They were subsequently discharged on giving excuses, which were accepted as satisfactory.

25. In the following year, Lieutenant-General Sir Eyre Coote became Lieutenant-Governor. He brought with him the announcement that the Imperial Parliament had passed a law withdrawing the restriction of trade between Jamaica and the other British West India islands and the United States of America, and had abolished the African slave trade without compensation to the planters. There were then in Jamaica 319,351 slaves. On the 26th March, 1808, the Duke of Manchester arrived as Governor. His administration continued for 19 years, and was distinguished by the novelty of an Assembly having existed for the full term of seven years. "This was the first time that any governor had beheld the natural death of his own House." Nevertheless many questions of privilege engaged the attention of the Assembly. General Carmichael, the commander of the forces, was brought to the bar for a contempt of the privileges of the House, in having prohibited his officers answering questions before a committee relative to a mutiny among the soldiers of the 2nd West India Regiment, stationed at Fort Augusta. The General having been subsequently ordered by the King to withdraw the prohibition, he submitted himself to the House, and was excused. Chief-Justice Jackson was summoned to the bar

for refusing to give evidence before a committee appointed to inquire into an appeal made to the House by one of its members against a decision of the judge, in a case in which the member was a party. The Chief-Justice declared that he could not take the oath as a witness, "without compromising his conscience as a man, and making a deliberate surrender of his independence as a judge." The House, on reconsideration, discharged the Chief-Justice from custody.

26. In the mutiny above referred to, the adjutant and major of the regiment were killed on parade; and in retaliation nine of the mutineers were instantly shot by the grenadier company, which remained loyal. Six others were subsequently shot by sentences of courts-martial. An inquiry by a committee of the Assembly into the circumstances of this disaffection terminated without any important result. There were also during the Duke's administration some conspiracies at rebellion, and some actual outbreaks of a minor character, which were all discovered and suppressed without any serious occurrences. One case had an enduring importance. Messrs. Lescene and Escoffery, two coloured gentlemen, were transported for an alleged "attempt to revolutionize the island;" they had previously been discharged from gaol under *habeas corpus* by Chief-Justice Scarlett. They proceeded to England, had their complaint brought before Parliament, and were compensated by a gratuity from the Imperial exchequer.

27. The wars which proceeded during a great part of the Duke of Manchester's administration between England and France, and England and the United States of America, closed the European markets against the produce of the planters, and led to great distress. The depreciation of British bills of exchange also created the want of a sufficient circulating medium. The Assembly was in consequence compelled to authorise the cutting from the centre of the current coin a piece equal to  $12\frac{1}{4}$  per cent., which was put into circulation under the denomination of a "bit." Nature, also, contributed to the misfortunes of the colonists. In October 1812 a severe storm occurred, which destroyed the growing food of the

people, and threatened a famine; and in the following November four severe shocks of earthquake considerably damaged a number of buildings throughout the island. In August 1813 another severe storm swept over the island, and in October 1815 the county of Surrey was materially injured by a similar catastrophe. Many of the works of the sugar and coffee plantations in St. George, St. David, and the upper part of Port Royal, were destroyed, and great portions of the soil were carried away by the overwhelming rapidity of the rivers. A number of lives were lost by these calamities, and by vessels being wrecked on the coasts and in the harbours. In November 1818 portions of the county of Cornwall also sustained great injury by a storm, which lasted, with intermissions, during three days.

28. But the most prominent occurrence during the Duke of Manchester's administration was the beginning of the controversy between the Imperial Government and the Assembly on the subject of the Slave Code. In the session of 1823 the Assembly was called upon to give effect to Mr. Canning's resolutions for "the adoption of effectual and decisive measures for ameliorating the condition of the slave population of His Majesty's colonies, and preparing them for a participation in those civil rights and privileges which were enjoyed by other classes of His Majesty's subjects." Among the measures indicated were the abolition of Sunday markets, the cessation of the practice of carrying a whip in the field, and the exemption of women from corporal punishment under any circumstances whatever. The Assembly refused to entertain these recommendations, on the ground that the Slave Code "was as complete in all its enactments as the nature of circumstances would admit." They also repudiated the right of the Imperial Parliament to interfere in the internal affairs of the island.

29. The agitation arising out of these contentions was at its height when the Duke of Manchester relinquished the government, and Sir John Keane became lieutenant-governor. One of his first acts was to announce to the Assembly the disallowance of the law passed in December



1826, prohibiting Dissenting ministers and others from "demanding or receiving any moneys or other chattel whatever for affording instruction to slaves." The disallowance was accompanied by an order from the Imperial Government prohibiting the Governor's assenting to any measure curtailing the religious liberty of any class of his Majesty's subjects, unless it contained a suspension clause.

30. The Earl of Belmore succeeded to the government in June 1829, and repeated the demand of the Imperial Government for the amendment of the Slave Code. After some acts in this direction which had been passed by the Assembly had been rejected by the King, in consequence of the inclusion of clauses affecting the Dissenting ministers, an act was eventually passed, from which the obnoxious clauses were excluded, and which enabled slaves to give evidence in Courts of Justice ; and this Act was left to its operation.

31. Proposals were, however, subsequently made by the British Government for the further amelioration of the condition of the slaves ; and Mr. Curtis Phillip Berry (a member of the Assembly) moved that the despatch containing these proposals be carried into the public square in front of the House, and burned by the common hangman ; while Mr. Stamp (another member) suggested the utter disregard of the recommendations, basing his suggestion on the ability of the colonial militia to resist the forces of England. The House declined to consider any measures not emanating from themselves, and rejected the recommendations.

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#### CHAPTER IV.—FROM 1831 TO 1865.

1. The hostility of a majority of the Assembly and of the slaveowners to the Imperial Government was so intense, as to cause them "to threaten the transfer of their allegiance to the United States, or even to assert their independence, after the manner of their continental neighbours."<sup>1</sup> The excitement

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<sup>1</sup> Mr. Edward Jordan (afterwards President of the Privy Council and Companion of the Bath), was tried in 1837 on a charge of constructive treason in publishing an article in the "*Watchman*" newspaper.

extended itself to the slave population, and resulted in an outbreak on the 28th December 1831. The mansions and sugar-works of Kensington estate, in the parish of St. James, were first set on fire by the slaves, and by midnight sixteen incendiary fires were destroying the properties in the neighbourhood. The militia regiments of the various parishes were, for the most part, already on duty,—keeping guard, as was customary, during the Christmas holidays; but now all persons capable of bearing arms were required to render assistance.

2. The Western Interior Regiment, under the command of Colonel Grignon, was reinforced by the 7th company of the St. James's Regiment, and marched to Old Montpelier estate, where they were met by two parties of the rebels, under the command of self-constituted "colonels" and "captains." The volleys of the militia soon put the insurgents to flight—their principal leaders and many others were killed. The casualties on the part of the colonial corps were—one man killed and four wounded. By that time the slaves in all the parishes of the county of Cornwall were in rebellion. Those on "Y. S." estate, in St. Elizabeth, made a stand against the militia, but the latter were victorious, and many of the insurgents were killed, and a great many taken prisoners.

3. In Manchester there was also a fight between some of the slaves and the militia, in which the insurgents lost six of their number. In the meantime, martial law was proclaimed throughout the island, and General Sir Willoughby Cotton, with detachments of the 77th and the 84th Regiments, proceeded to the disaffected districts. The General made a disposition of his forces (including the militia), and himself took the field. Several skirmishes occurred between the insurgents and the troops, in which many of the former were killed and wounded, and a few of the latter were injured. Under the judicious and skilful arrangements of the General the insurgents were separated; some quickly betaking themselves to the woods and mountain fastnesses, but most of them returning to the estate, and giving themselves up to the

authorities and to their masters. A great number expiated their offences by death, and others were flogged. Property to the value of £666,977 sterling was destroyed by the insurgents; and the British Government, in commiseration of the deplorable state to which the proprietors were reduced, extended to them a loan of £200,000 to replenish their plantations.

4. The Reverend William Knibb, and the other Dissenting ministers who were arrested during martial law for inciting the slaves to rebellion, were tried and acquitted; but a number of the leading slaveholders and their sympathisers formed themselves into an association, designated the Colonial Church Union, for the avowed purpose of exterminating the sectarians. The Wesleyan and Baptist chapels in St. Ann, Trelawny, St. James, and other parishes, were destroyed, and personal indignities were shown to many of the pastors. At length a royal proclamation was issued declaring the Colonial Church Union an illegal association; and a circular was issued by the Governor (the Earl of Mulgrave) to the Custodes, informing them of his determination to deprive all who continued to adhere to the Union of all appointments held by them under the crown. Accordingly, Colonel Hamilton Brown, of the St. Ann Interior Regiment of militia, was cashiered on parade at Huntly Pasture by the Governor in person, and a number of other gentlemen were deprived of their commissions as magistrates and officers of militia for their connection with the Union. This action on the part of the Governor was the deathblow of the illegal organisation.

5. While these measures were being adopted against the colonial unionists, the Assembly were again repudiating the right of the Imperial Parliament to legislate for Jamaica. This was in consequence of the Earl of Mulgrave insisting on the immediate passing of the laws indicated in Mr. Canning's resolutions of 1823. In reply, the Governor informed them that he could not listen to their denial of the right of the Imperial Parliament to legislate on the internal affairs of the colony, "without asserting, in the most unequivocal terms, the transcendent powers of the Imperial

Parliament, regulated only by its own discretion, and limited only by such restrictions as itself may have imposed." The Assembly thereupon passed a resolution in which the announcement of the Governor was declared to be "subversive of the common rights, and dangerous to the lives and liberties of the colonists." They acknowledged the supremacy of the sovereign, but "could not admit the supremacy of a portion of His Majesty's subjects in the parent state over another portion of these subjects in Jamaica." This action on the part of the Assembly led up to the passing of the Imperial Act, which declared that, from and after the 1st August 1834, all the slaves in the colonial possessions of Great Britain should be for ever free, but subject to an intermediate state of six years' apprenticeship for *praedials*, and four years for domestics. Twenty millions of pounds sterling were awarded as compensation to the slave-owners. There were then upwards of 300,000 slaves in Jamaica.

6. On the 8th October 1833 a new Assembly met, and the Emancipation Law of the Imperial Parliament was laid before them. The Assembly had now no alternative but to accept the imperial decree; but, before they separated, they placed a strong protest against the Act on their journals. They declared the action of the Imperial Parliament unconstitutional, and designated it as one of spoliation, which could produce nothing but clamour, discontent, and rebellion. The Earl of Mulgrave having achieved the object of his mission, retired; and was succeeded by Lord Sligo, who was appointed with the especial view of carrying out the scheme of emancipation. He brought with him a number of stipendiary magistrates to administer the Act. On the 1st August 1834, slavery was abolished, and the apprenticeship system established. The number of apprentices in Jamaica for whom pecuniary compensation was paid by the British government was 255,290; and the number of aged persons, children and "runaways," who were excluded from the valuation, was 55,780; making a total of 311,070 emancipated bondsmen. The amount of compensation awarded was £5,853,975 sterling.

7. Lord Sligo convened the legislature in August 1835, for the purpose of enabling them to pass a police law, and other measures that had become necessary by the altered state of things in the colony; but the bills were so modified and amended in their progress through the House, as not to contain any of the essential recommendations of the Secretary of State. This was pointed out in a message from the Governor, which was voted a breach of privilege, and led to two prorogations. On the re-assembling of the House in May 1836, the Governor stated that "he had been informed by an authority of more experience than his own, and to which it was his duty to submit, that the delivery of the message relative to the bill in aid of the Abolition Act, involved a breach of their privileges (although not intended), and he had to express his regret at the occurrence." The House thereupon proceeded to business, and soon after the close of the session the Marquis of Sligo retired from the government. As the Assembly would not pass the required law in aid of the Abolition Act, the Imperial Parliament legislated on the subject, and the Act in aid was proclaimed in the colony.

8. On the 22nd May 1838, the House of Commons, acting on a demand from the British people, passed a resolution declaring "that negro apprenticeship in the British colonies should at once cease and determine." The local legislature met on the 5th June, and Sir Lionel Smith, then Governor, called their attention to the uncontrollable agitation existing in the mother country, and the excitement in the colony on the apprenticeship question. "Thus pressed, the House, on the third day of their sitting, read for the first time a bill to terminate the apprenticeship on the 1st of August. After a brief adjournment it was read a second time, and on the next day, a few amendments being made in committee, a third time, and was passed. It quietly ran its course through the Council, and on the 16th June it received the Governor's assent." But the Assembly protested "before God and man" against the interference of the British Parliament with the internal affairs of Jamaica, and especially against the Imperial

Act to amend the Abolition Law, and its proclamation in the colony. On the 1st August 1838, the apprenticeship system was abolished, and absolute freedom conferred upon the whole negro population. The emancipated people and their friends devoted three entire days to rejoicings; but all the festivities terminated peaceably.

9. Concurrently with the passing of the Total Emancipation Act by the Imperial Parliament, they passed a law for the better government of prisons in the West Indies. The Assembly protested against this "infringement on the inherent rights of the legislature of the colony," and resolved on abstaining from the "exercise of any legislative functions except such as might be necessary to preserve inviolate the faith of the island with the public creditor, until they shall be left to the free exercise of their inherent rights as British subjects." The House was prorogued, and subsequently dissolved. On the assembling of the new House, it adhered to the previous resolution, and was prorogued. Seventeen annual laws were left to expire at the end of the year, among which were acts providing for a police, and to a great extent for the public revenue.

10. This dead-lock in legislation having been reported to the Home authorities, a law was passed by the Imperial Parliament, in which it was provided that in case of the refusal of the Assembly to resume the work of legislation within a given time, the Governor and Council should have power to pass revenue laws, and to re-enact expiring and expired laws for a limited period. Sir Charles (afterwards Lord) Metcalfe was sent to Jamaica as governor, with instructions to endeavour to effect a reconciliation between the contending parties without reference to the special enactment; but if this became impossible, then to govern the colony according to the Imperial Act. Sir Charles Metcalfe met the legislature for the first time on the 22nd October 1839, and delivered a conciliatory speech. In their reply the Assembly justified their past conduct, but receded from their previous resolution, and then proceeded to business.

11. Among the measures recommended by the Governor, and passed by the legislature, was one for establishing a new judicial system, under which provision was made for a Vice-Chancellor, Chief-Justice, two assistant Judges, and nine chairmen of Quarter Sessions,—all to be legally trained. Laws were also passed for abolishing the sentence of death in all cases except such as were similarly punished in England, and for legalising marriages by Dissenting ministers. The currency was assimilated to that of the United Kingdom, and a number of white immigrants from Scotland and Ireland were introduced. Many of the descendants of the Maroons who were transported in 1796 returned to the colony, and resumed their residence here. Sir Charles Metcalfe left the island on the 21st May 1842, amidst the regrets of the inhabitants. “He had reconciled the colony with the mother country; he had reconciled all classes of colonial society; and whilst he had won the approbation of his sovereign, he had carried with him also the hearts of the people.” The Assembly subsequently voted the sum of £3,000 for the erection of a monument to perpetuate his memory.

12. Lord Elgin assumed the government. During two years and a half there was a gloom over the island, in consequence of a succession of earthquakes, storms, and floods; but his Lordship ultimately distinguished his government by his efforts to improve the social condition of the colony, and develop its varied industrial resources. The Royal Agricultural Society, and several parochial associations of a similar kind, were established under his presidency, and a variety of improvements in modes of cultivation, machinery, &c., were introduced through his instrumentality. Immigration from India was authorised by the Imperial Government, and the first batch of coolies arrived in 1845. New breeds of cattle were also brought to the island. The Jamaica Railway was opened for traffic, and the foundation stone of the General Penitentiary was laid. But the beneficial effect of these important improvements were soon to be displaced by despondency and retrogression. In August 1846 the Imperial

Parliament passed an Act for the gradual equalisation of the sugar duties on British and foreign productions, and the Assembly, in the succeeding November, declared that they were in consequence unable to continue the institutions of the colony on their present scale, or to defray the future expense of coolie immigration.

13. Just about that time Sir Charles Edward Grey arrived as governor. The legislature met (according to adjournment) on the 15th February 1847, and petitions were presented from all parts of the island praying for a reduction of the salaries of the public officers, and the curtailment of the expenditure of all public institutions. Thereupon the war of retrenchment began. Bill after bill embodying the retrenchment scheme was passed, session after session, by the Assembly, but rejected by the Council. Mr. Justice Stevenson (afterwards Sir William Stevenson) protested, in a letter published in the "*Morning Journal*" newspaper, against this continued endeavour of the Assembly "to violate public faith, and confiscate the property of public men," and he was committed to gaol for a breach of the privileges of the House. A few days after this incident (which caused the retirement of Mr. Stevenson from the judicial bench of the colony) the legislature was prorogued, to enable them again to deal with the revenue bills which were about to expire. (Continuing bills had been rejected by the Council on account of the revenue having been appropriated to the payment of certain items of expenditure only.) On their reassembling, the rejected measures were again passed by the Assembly and sent to the Council, where they were again as summarily rejected. The 30th April 1853 arrived, and on that day the annual laws levying the import and rum duties expired, and on the following day Jamaica was a free port. The Treasury was then in utter bankruptcy, and the island notes, issued by the Commissioners of Accounts to meet pressing and unavoidable expenses, were at a discount of from 30 to 40 per cent. The loss of revenue arising out of the failure of the revenue bills amounted to £130,000.

14. Every effort made by Sir Charles Grey to reconcile the



differences between the Council and the Assembly utterly failed; and at length the disagreement became one of a personal character between the executive and the Assembly. Sir Charles Grey was charged by the Assembly with unduly influencing and supporting the Council, which was then almost entirely composed of office-holders, in their opposition to a reduction of the salaries of themselves and other officials of the island, and with invasions of the rights and privileges of the Assembly with regard to the raising and appropriating of public moneys. His Excellency, in reply, informed the House that the "pleasure, or the pain, or the indifference, with which he heard remarks upon his public conduct, depended mainly upon the estimation in which he held those by whom they were made." This infuriated the opposition, and the following resolution was, on the 20th May 1853, agreed to by a majority of ten :—"That in consequence of the rejection of the revenue bills by the second branch of the legislature during the last session, and the recklessness and utter disregard of the interests of the colony thereby displayed, and this House having failed in their endeavours made at the opening of the present session to obtain any assurance that the honourable the Board of Council will make any concession, however reasonable, the House feels that it cannot, with any confidence, continue to originate legislative measures for the benefit of its constituents, and in self-respect, and in vindication of the rights of the people, it declines to do any business with the honourable Board of Council." On the passing of this resolution the House adjourned, and the "dead-lock" continued.

15. The whole question was in the meantime brought under the consideration of the Imperial Government, and the period of Sir Charles Grey's administration having, unfortunately for the Colonial Secretary, about then expired, Sir Henry Barkly was commissioned as Governor of Jamaica. "Sir Henry had been a sugar planter in Demerara, and had been sent to that colony to settle the retrenchment question there, and had done so to the satisfaction of all parties. The retrenchment

party therefore saw in him a sympathiser and a deliverer, and he was heartily welcomed by them, and, indeed, by the entire community. The members of Assembly transformed their legislative hall into a ball-room, and subscribed liberally to a magnificent entertainment to Sir Henry and Lady Barkly."

Sir Henry Barkly called the legislature together, for a new session, at the earliest opportunity after his arrival; and in his opening speech he fully expressed himself on the questions at issue. "What Jamaica stands pre-eminently in need of at the present stage of her political progress," said His Excellency, "is a strong executive administration, consisting of upright and intelligent men, chosen from among her own citizens, to devote themselves to the exclusive study of her condition—charged with the sole responsibility in all matters of finance, and serving as an acknowledged medium of communication between the representative of the Crown, the Council, and the House of Assembly." The recommendation was adopted, and the Act for the better government of the island was passed, under which the Governor was authorised to appoint an Executive Committee, to consist of not more than four members of the legislature.

16. In consideration of the adoption of this measure, and the provision of a permanent revenue of £25,000 per annum, to be appropriated in payment of the salaries of the Judges, the Executive Committee, the Receiver-General, and several other public officers, the Imperial Government guaranteed a loan of £500,000 at 4 per cent., to pay off the debts of the colony. At the same time the Legislative Council was deprived of its functions as a Privy Council, and the number was increased to seventeen members. A new Privy Council was formed, consisting of sixteen members. Sir Henry Barkly was sworn in as Captain-General and Governor-in-Chief under the new constitution, and the first Executive Committee was appointed: these were Mr. (afterwards Sir) Bryan Edwards in the Legislative Council, and Mr. Edward Jordan and Mr. Henry Westmoreland in the Assembly.

17. While these political questions were agitating the country, considerable alarm was created by rumours of an approaching rebellion of the negroes. "The ground-work of the whole matter" was declared to be "the belief of the peasantry that the United States of America were likely to take possession of the island, and to reduce them (the negroes) to slavery. This belief, it was supposed, had originated from the mention which had been made in some of the American papers, of the distressed state of the island, and the good which would result from its annexation, with Cuba, to the United States;" and what the planters had said "on the subject of relief from Great Britain, as well as other persons, some very influential." The Governor made some arrangements to have a sufficient force available, if any disturbance should occur in the districts where it was apprehended, and issued a proclamation to quiet the minds of the peasantry, by assuring them that there was no danger that any attempt would again be made to reduce them to slavery. These measures were successful, and all cause for alarm soon passed away.

18. In the year 1850 Asiatic cholera had made its appearance for the first time in Jamaica. It first occurred at Port Royal, and afterwards severely scourged nearly every parish in the island. The mortality was estimated at 32,000 persons, or about one in thirteen of the population at the time. A second visitation of this disease occurred three years later, but its ravages and duration were not as great as was the case in 1850. The first session of the legislature, under the new constitution, was devoted to the passing of laws for effecting financial reforms, and restoring public credit; but there was still an empty Treasury, and heavy arrears were outstanding. For five years the Receiver-General was unable to pay in full all claims against the Treasury, and the cry for retrenchment still prevailed. This was effected in the second session under the new constitution, when the judicial, clergy, and other establishments were reduced on equitable terms, and the holders of abolished offices were placed on the pension list

which was then created. Sir Henry Barkly having effected these objects, was transferred, on promotion, to Victoria, and Mr. (afterwards Sir) C. H. Darling appointed Governor.

19. Governor Darling, after "a careful consideration of the relative bearing of the several clauses of the Act for the better government of the island," informed the Executive Committee that he had arrived at the conclusion that "it was the intention of the legislature to establish in Jamaica the main principle, at least, upon which responsible government in other colonies rests, namely, that in all important questions, which are of a purely domestic nature, the colony should be governed according to the well-understood views and wishes of the constituencies (assumed to be the people), as expressed by their representatives in the legislature." Messrs. Jordan, Hosack, and Price, the then members of the Executive Committee, contended that "the theory of the government established by the Act for the better government of the island, made the Governor for the time being alone responsible for the acts of the Government;" and that "responsible government, which was what the Governor sought to establish, was unsuited to this country."

20. Mr. Darling differed from the members of the committee, and they submitted their resignations. Messrs. R. W. Smith, Geo. Solomon, and the Baron Von Ketelhodt were there-upon appointed to office on the principle of ministerial responsibility. Mr. Solomon, on entering on his duties as financial minister, presented a statement to the Assembly, showing a deficit in the Treasury of £58,061 18s. 3d., and obtained a law providing for the issue, if necessary, of £20,000 of Treasury bonds to meet immediate claims. Soon after, Governor Darling left the island on leave, and Mr. Edward John Eyre was appointed lieutenant-governor. The Assembly met in November 1862, and the intensity of former political struggles soon manifested itself in opposition to the Executive Committee. Early in the following year it became necessary to dissolve the House, and on the meeting of the new Assembly, Mr. Westmoreland moved an address

to the Lieutenant-Governor, declaring "that having regard to the mal-administration of the financial affairs of the colony, the continuance in office of his Excellency's present constitutional advisers is incompatible with the due progress of the public business and the island." The address was passed by a majority of one, and Mr. Smith and his colleagues resigned. Messrs. Jordan, Westmoreland, and Phillips (the latter being subsequently replaced by Mr. Price) were appointed their successors.

21. This did not secure political tranquillity, and it was not long before the Lieutenant-Governor and the Assembly came into direct collision, and the Assembly (or rather thirteen members of that body, acting as a quorum) "declined to proceed to any further business with his Excellency." This determination was the result of Mr Eyre's having instructed the Attorney-General "to adopt proceedings, by way of *habeas corpus*, to impeach the right of the Assembly to imprison persons for contempt." (Mr. Ewart, the agent-general of immigration, had been imprisoned by the House for declining to reply to certain questions concerning his office, which had been submitted to him by a committee of the Assembly, on the ground that the information he possessed was "privileged.") Just about this time Mr. Darling was transferred to Victoria, and Mr. Eyre appointed Governor-in-Chief—the Secretary of State (the Duke of Newcastle) having promoted him in testimony of his approval of the course he had adopted in the recent conflict with the Assembly.

22. Whilst these political questions were agitating the country, "a drought had desolated the provision grounds, and deprived the peasantry of the usual food. The American War and increased taxation on imports had also made costly the supply of breadstuffs." Agitators availed themselves of these calamities to excite the public mind. A public meeting was held in Kingston, under the presidency of Mr. George William Gordon, at which a resolution was passed, "calling upon all the descendants of Africa, in every parish throughout the island, to form themselves into societies, and hold public

meetings, and co-operate, for the purpose of setting forth their grievances." The greater number of the speeches delivered at these meetings were of a seditious character, and a committee, designated "The Central Communicating Committee," was formed, with its headquarters in St. David.

23. The movement thus inaugurated soon had its natural effect. On the 11th October 1865, the vestry of St. Thomas-in-the-East met for the transaction of their ordinary business. At about three o'clock some hundreds of people, armed with cutlasses, sticks, muskets, and bayonets, entered the square in front of the court-house at Morant Bay, and declared for "war." They were all blacks, and their cry was, "colour for colour," "blood for blood." They began their overt acts by stoning the volunteers, who were drawn up in front of the court-house, (a disturbance having been anticipated), and Captain Hitchins was struck in the forehead. The Riot Act was read, and the volunteers fired, but they were soon overpowered. A hand-to-hand struggle ensued, during which Captain Hitchins, faint from the loss of blood, rested on the knee of a volunteer the rifle he had taken from a murdered comrade, and fired his two remaining rounds of ammunition. He was then surrounded and hacked to death. All the officers and many of the members of the volunteer corps "nobly died at their posts, gallantly doing their duty." (Governor Eyre's report to Mr. Secretary Cardwell.) The custos of the parish, the curate of Bath, the inspector of police, and a number of magistrates and other personages were also murdered.

24. On intelligence of the outbreak reaching the seat of government, troops were immediately despatched to the disaffected district, and martial law was proclaimed. The Maroons of Scot's Hall and Moore Town were called out; and, headed by their veteran chief, Colonel Fyfe, took the field, and did good service in arresting the fugitive rebels. The pensioners of the West India Regiments residing in Jamaica were called to their colours, and responded with alacrity. In Kingston the number of volunteers increased

within three days from one hundred and fifty rank and file to over five hundred, and additional volunteer companies were improvised in every parish of the island. "Within three days from the first intelligence of the rebellion reaching Kingston, it was headed, checked and hemmed in, and within a week it was fairly crushed." The military and volunteers, however, remained on guard and transport duty during the entire month of martial law; and their services were appreciatively acknowledged by the Governor in his opening speech to the legislature; and they received the thanks of the Legislative Council and the Assembly. The relatives dependent upon those who fell in the engagement of the 11th October were pensioned by the legislature. Mr. Gordon was arrested, tried by court-martial, and hanged; and a number of the actual ringleaders amongst the insurgents were similarly dealt with.

25. On intelligence of the outbreak reaching England, Sir Henry Knight Storks was despatched to Jamaica, to assume the government, and to act as president of a royal commission of inquiry. He was associated with Mr. Russell Gurney, the Recorder of London, and Mr. J. B. Maule, the Recorder of Leeds. The conclusions arrived at by them were—"(1) That the punishments inflicted during martial law were excessive; (2) that the punishment of death was unnecessarily frequent; (3) that the floggings were reckless, and at Bath positively barbarous; (4) that the burning of one thousand houses was wanton and cruel." The Commissioners also reported that the "disturbances had their immediate origin in a planned resistance to lawful authority;" and that "a principal object of the disturbers of order was the obtaining of land free from the payment of rent." Her Majesty's government, while giving Governor Eyre "full credit for those portions of his conduct to which credit was justly due, felt compelled, by the result of the enquiry, to disapprove of other portions of his conduct," and declined to replace him in the government of the colony. Mr. Eyre thereupon left Jamaica.

26. The legislature had previously, at the instance of Governor Eyre, passed a law to abolish the then existing constitution, and to empower Her Majesty the Queen "to create and constitute a government for this island in such form and with such powers as to Her Majesty may best seem fitting," and the Act had received the assent of the Crown. Thus was brought to a close a representative institution which had existed for 202 years, and which had exercised powers, in some respects, in excess of those of the British House of Commons itself.

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## CHAPTER V.—FROM 1866 TO 1883.

1. Effect had been given to the law passed by the Assembly to alter and amend the constitution, by an Act of the Imperial Parliament. Sir John Peter Grant, K.C.B., as Governor, arrived on the 5th of August 1866,—an order in council having been previously issued, establishing a new legislature and a new Privy Council. Unofficial members of council were appointed, and the first session convened. Various important measures were passed, providing for the internal government of the island; and the Governor reported to the colonial minister that "security and tranquillity were beginning to have their natural effect in turning the attention of capitalists to a colony whose resources were unbounded." Also, that "a state of contentment, and of willing obedience to the law, in striking contrast with the state of feeling reported to have existed in 1865, has shown itself not only in the absence of all riotous spirit, but in a great diminution of ordinary crime."

2. Indictments were prepared here and in London against parties engaged in the suppression of the rebellion in Jamaica, but the bills were ignored, and the prisoners released. During this and the following years criminal proceedings were taken in England on three several occasions, and on various charges, against Mr. Eyre, but without effect. A semi-military con-



stabulary force was organised. In 1868 the volunteer force disbanded; and the Public Works Department organised under Lieutenant-Colonel J. R. Mann, R.E., as director of roads, superintendent of public works, and surveyor-general. The number of parishes were reduced from 22 to 14, nearly equalising them, and making each a complete system in itself, in the judicial, police, revenue, immigration, pauper and medical departments, and in its system of parochial roads.

3. During this year, too, the new system of grants in aid of elementary schools was introduced. Coolie immigration was resumed, after an interval of four years. Postal arrangements made for three times a week instead of twice. District courts introduced, framed on the model of the English County Courts. Permanent plantations of cinchona at public cost. The first impulse given to the fruit-trade with America, in bananas especially. The value of fruit exported in 1867 was only £728. The organisation of the Government Medical Department, for the purpose of providing the inhabitants, especially of the rural districts, with medical attendance and medicines.

4. 1869, *January 7th*.—Opening of communication, by the West India and Panama Telegraph Company, between Havana and Jamaica, whereby the island was placed in telegraphic communication with Cuba, the United States, and Europe.

*July*.—Opening of the railway from Spanish Town to Old Harbour Market, a distance of 11 miles.

The "*La Have*," with papers showing that Kingston was her destination, and with a cargo of guns and munitions of war, was captured on the high seas by a Spanish war-ship, and towed into Port Royal. The cargo was detained by order of Governor Sir J. P. Grant, on the advice of Mr. Attorney-General Heslop, under an inland statute which declares that "munitions of war shipped at a foreign port are forfeited to the Crown if imported into Jamaica." Actions for damages were filed by the owners of the vessel and cargo against Sir J. P. Grant, the amount claimed being £33,000. After the first case had been heard, and a verdict had been given against

the defendant, a compromise was effected, the Governor giving his promissory note, payable in six months, for £7,920, with interest at 8 per cent., and restoring the arms and ammunition.

5. *September 30th.*—A large surplus of revenue over expenditure reported, the amount being £58,896, and attributed to the increased yield of the ordinary imports by means of better collection, &c. The exportation of wood during the year was 111,044 tons, of the value of £272,057 ; the quantity exported in 1839 was 895 tons, of the value of £2,685.

Mr. John Lucie Smith, C.M.G., attorney-general of British Guiana (subsequently knighted) was appointed Chief Justice in lieu of Sir Bryan Edwards, resigned.

*December 31st.*—The Church of England in Jamaica dis-established on the expiry of the clergy law.

6. 1870.—Government Savings Bank established. The Legislative Council passed a vote for redeeming the promissory note given by Sir J. P. Grant in the case of the "*La Have*," but requested his Excellency "to urge upon the Secretary of State, in as strong a manner as his Excellency might deem fit, the justice of the British Government refunding the amount to the colony, the seizure having been made for the purpose of carrying out imperial policy and international law." The amount was refunded.

7. 1871. The Government purchased and extended the Kingston and Liguanea Waterworks. Grand juries abolished, and the superior Courts of Law and Equity transferred from Spanish Town to Kingston. Abolition of imprisonment for debt. Census of the population taken with the following result:—

Males . .	246,573	White . .	13,101
Females .	259,581	Coloured .	100,346
		Black . .	392,707
	<hr/>		<hr/>
	506,154		506,154

Showing an increase of 64,890, or 14·7 per cent., in the last ten years.

8. 1872.—Reduction of postage on prepaid letters from threepence to twopence per half ounce, to all parts of the island. The Legislative Council and Colonial Secretariat, and the Governor's residence, removed to Kingston and vicinity, thus completing the final transfer of the seat of government from Spanish Town to Kingston.

9. The surplus of the financial year amounted to £33,415. "This is a very satisfactory result (wrote Sir John Peter Grant to the Secretary of State), inasmuch as this continuing surplus accrues with no increase of taxation, and is in the face of a large expenditure on public works of utility and importance; of a largely increasing expenditure on such departments as those of education and medicine, and of some increase of expenditure in those administrative and revenue departments which necessarily require development as the population and wealth of the colony become developed."

10. 1874.—Annexation of the Turks and Caicos islands to the government of Jamaica. Sir J. P. Grant retired, and Sir William Grey assumed the government of the colony. The Dry River or Rio Minho Bridge completed and opened for traffic. A hurricane occurred by which many of the "provision grounds" or cultivated fields of the peasantry were destroyed, and other damages sustained throughout the island. The largest importation of food ever known in the island took place, and £266,790 import duties were collected.

11. 1876.—A collection of Jamaica products exhibited with very satisfactory results at the International Exhibition held at Philadelphia, U.S.A., during the year—thirty-one awards having been obtained by the island, of which nine were for coffee, six for rum, two for tobacco, two for vegetable fibres, &c. A special award was adjudged to the Government for the collective display of these products. Tramway cars started in Kingston, through the enterprise of a private company.

12. 1877.—Sir William Grey having relinquished the government, its administration devolved on Lieutenant-Governor Rushworth, C.M.G. Jamaica admitted into the Postal Union. Kingston lighted with gas.

*August 10.*—Lieutenant-Governor Rushworth died, and the government was assumed by Major-General Mann, R.E., as President of the Privy Council.

*August 22.*—The schooner "*Florence*" arrived at Port Royal, reported as being in distress, landed her cargo of arms and ammunition at Fort Augusta, and was permitted to enter Kingston harbour for repairs.

13. *August 24.*—His Excellency Sir Anthony Musgrave, K.C.M.G., arrived, and immediately assumed the government as Captain-General and Governor-in-Chief.

*September 28.*—The schooner "*Florence*" having completed her repairs, she was required by the government, on the advice of Mr. Attorney-General O'Malley, to enter into security to proceed direct to Saint Thomas, her reported place of destination, with her cargo of arms and ammunition. This necessarily occasioned delay and detention until one thousand pounds as a guarantee was lodged in the Treasury by her consignees. This was refunded on the production of a certificate from the British consul at St. Thomas as to the fulfilment of the contract. A deficit of £1,750 occurred in the island Treasury this year, caused by the falling off in the receipts for imports and rum duties, consequent on excessive commercial failures.

*November 22.*—A commission appointed to enquire into and report upon the extent, composition, and organisation of the several public departments of the island.

14. 1878.—The immigration debt of £35,000 assumed by the government, and new arrangements for carrying on East Indian immigration promulgated, the principal feature of which was that no new loans should be contracted.

Department for the registration of births and deaths organised.

Mr. Edward Newton, C.M.G., succeeds the late Mr. Rushworth as Lieutenant-Governor and Colonial Secretary.

1879.—Passing of the new marriage law, which provides for the appointment of marriage officers, and for purely civil marriages where the parties so desire. A divorce law was also passed. Also laws remodelling the judicial system.

15. Purchase by the government of the Jamaica Railway for the sum of £90,000. Surveys for the extension of the line from Old Harbour to Porus, and from the Angels to Ewarton, made by Mr. Valentine Bell, C.E. Extension sanctioned by the Secretary of State.

Retirement of Dr. Courtenay from the bishopric of Kingston.

*October 8th to 13th.*—Heavy rains, which caused great destruction of property and some loss of life. Establishment of telegraphic communication throughout the island in connection with the post-office department.

Dr. Tozer appointed bishop of Jamaica.

16. 1880.—Arrival of their Royal Highnesses Prince Albert Victor and George, sons of the Prince of Wales, in H.M. ship "*Bacchante*," and their entertainment by the Lieutenant-Governor.

*July 15th.*—Election by the Synod of the Church of England in Jamaica, of the Rev. Enos Nuttall, B.D., as bishop of the diocese, in the room of Dr. Tozer, resigned. The Rev. Mr. Nuttall subsequently proceeded to England, and was created a Doctor of Divinity, and consecrated by the Archbishop of Canterbury as bishop of Jamaica.

17. A severe drought continued from June to the beginning of August, when ordinary rains fell. On the 18th August a cyclone passed over the eastern half of the island, which lasted for about five hours, and did considerable damage to public and private property, and to the growing crops of the peasantry. Nearly all the wharves in the Kingston harbour were destroyed, and the shipping sustained much injury. Five persons were drowned, and twenty-five died from the falling of houses or from exposure. Subscriptions towards a relief fund were offered by the government of Barbados, the 1st W. I. Regiment and the Atlas Steamship Company, but declined by his Excellency the Governor, on the ground that "the only injury done by the cyclone, the reparation of which might not be immediately within local means, was the destruction or injury of churches and chapels of all denominations, estimated in respect to the Church of England alone at over £8,000."

18. *September 30th.*—The value of the fruits exported during the year was £51,316. The value of the entire exports (including the principal minor exports) was £1,616,857, or £630,712 more than in 1865. The value of the principal staples (sugar, rum, and coffee) was £1,055,512, or £60,613 in excess of 1839, the first year after the emancipation of the slaves. Accumulations of the Government Savings Bank, £100,000, remitted to England for investment.

19. 1881.—The Atlas Steamship Company began their contract with the government for a weekly steam communication round the island.

A census taken—

Males . . . .	282,957
Females . . . .	297,847
Total . . . .	<hr/> 580,804
Census of 1871 .	506,154
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Excess in 10 years	74,650

20. Two actions were tried in the Kingston Circuit Court, at the suit of General Pulido of Venezuela, against Governor Sir Anthony Musgrave and Mr. Richard Gillard, collector of customs, for the detention in 1877 of the schooner "*Florence*" and her cargo of arms and ammunition. Damages were laid at £18,000. Verdicts amounting to £6,700 were given.

*November 8th.*—A fire occurred in King Street, Kingston, by which property to the extent of £5,000 was destroyed.

21. *November 22nd.*—The Legislative Council met, when the Governor announced a deficit of £44,446 on the accounts of the financial year. "This," his Excellency said, "ought not to be altogether surprising in a year which was admitted to have been one of severe distress to the masses of the people, almost all over the colony, in consequence of the protracted drought which succeeded the cyclone of August last year." An anticipated deficit of £16,702 on the ordinary requirements of the succeeding financial year was also announced. To meet the total deficit (£61,148), the Legislative Council, at the

instance of the government, increased the duty on rum from 5s. to 8s. per gallon, and imposed an additional 10 per cent. on all customs duties.

22. *December*.—A despatch from the Secretary of State, directing the Governor to apply to the Legislative Council for a vote to cover the damages and costs in the suits for the detention of the "*Florence*," was laid before the Board, and referred to a select committee. The report of the committee stated that "the Council would not be justified in sanctioning the vote, as the detention was made entirely to protect imperial interests, and in no way could this island derive any benefit therefrom." The report was disagreed to by the Council, and the further consideration of the question was postponed until after the Christmas recess. Public meetings in support of the views of the select committee were held in Kingston and several other parishes.

23. 1882, *January 10th*.—The Legislative Council met. Petitions were presented from the several parishes against the passing of any vote of money for the damages and costs in the case of the "*Florence*," and a resolution was carried, by the votes of the unofficial members, to the effect that the Board recorded its agreement with the prayers of those petitions. Mr. Geo. Solomon brought forward a series of resolutions, of which one was carried by the votes of the unofficial members, which ran as follows:—"That the expenditure of the island during the fifteen years of Crown government has been in excess in the aggregate to the extent of £2,000,000 over any similar period in the history of the colony, without, in the opinion of the Council, an adequate advantage being derived therefrom."

24. The rest of the series of resolutions were rejected by the Council. They were principally to the effect that the expenditure of the island during the above period had been regulated by temporary prosperity, brought about by a number of fortuitous circumstances; that in fact there had been general impoverishment of the people, causing much discontent, and an alarming increase of crime throughout the island; that the ex-

penditure of the colony should be reduced,—the salary of any new Governor to be £5,000 a year, instead of £7,000; that the inhabitants of the island were greatly dissatisfied with the existing constitution, particularly with regard to the administration of its finances; that the Governor should not act as the president of the Legislative Council; and that the non-publication of the Civil Service Commissioners had impressed the public mind and the Council with the unwillingness of the government to make reforms needed by the depressed condition of the colony.

25. The Honourable John Charles McGlashan, Auditor-General, and the Honourable Samuel Constantine Burke, Crown Solicitor and Assistant Attorney-General on the eastern circuit, resigned their seats in the Council as official members, and the Protector of Immigrants and Chief Inspector of Schools were appointed in their stead.

26. The official members then were:—

*By virtue of their Offices:—*

His Excellency Edward Newton, C.M.G., Lieutenant-Governor and Colonial Secretary.

The Hon. Colonel Somerset Molyneux Wiseman-Clarke, senior military officer in command of Her Majesty's regular troops. And

The Hon. Henry Hicks Hocking, Attorney-General.

*By Royal Warrant:—*

The Hon. Major-General James Robert Mann, R.E., C.M.G., Director of Public Works.

The Hon. Daniel Power Trench, Collector-General.

The Hon. Edward Noel Walker, Assistant Colonial Secretary.

The Hon. Dr. Chas. Benjamin Mosse, C.B., Superintending Medical Officer.

The Hon. Arthur Harvey Alexander, Protector of Immigrants, and

The Hon. Thomas Capper, Inspector of Schools.



*Un-Official Members:—*

Honourable	James Henry McDowell.
„	James Mitchell Gibb.
„	George Solomon.
„	Leicester Colville Shirley.
„	Henry Sewell.
„	Michael Solomon.
„	William Kerr.
„	George Henderson.

27. *January 31st.*—Despatches from the Secretary of State, on the several portions of the report of the Civil Service Commissioners, were presented to the Legislative Council. The more important changes directed by the Secretary of State in consequence of the report were, that the headquarters and residence of the Inspector-General of Police should be transferred to Kingston ; that the other law offices should be made subordinate to the Attorney-General ; that the office of Treasurer should be combined with that of Collector-General, under the title of Receiver-General—this officer to be a member of the Legislative Council, and the official exponent of the estimates in council ; that the title Director of Public Works should be substituted for that of Director of Roads and Surveyor-General, and that the Director should have a professional subordinate at the head of each of the principal subdivisions of his department,—namely, railway, roads and bridges, and general work ; and that the counter-stamping department of the Treasury should be abolished.

28. Annexation of the Morant and Pedro Cays, as dependencies of Jamaica, announced by proclamation. On his return from a short vacation leave, Sir Anthony Musgrave was presented with an address, signed by 415 leading citizens of Kingston, congratulating him on his return, and recounting his services in establishing local telegraphs, and the coastal steam service, and promoting railway extension. His Excellency was at the same time requested to forward a memorial

to the Secretary of State, praying that his term of office as Governor of the colony might be extended.

29. *November 7th.*—Legislative Council met. The business was opened by an address from the Governor, in which his Excellency reviewed the financial position of the colony at the beginning of the financial year. His Excellency reported that the deficit on the annual accounts, which stood at £44,395 on the 1st of October 1881, had been reduced at the same date in 1882 to the sum of £20,226 ; which results had been obtained by a diminution of the amount of annual charges for debt to the extent of £12,429, and by a reduction of expenditure under votes granted to the extent of £18,935, amounting to a saving expenditure of £31,364. The revenue had been aided to the extent of £15,161 by the sum of certain sinking funds set free by arrangements under Law 19 of 1880 ; and the sum of £9,700, consisting of the profits on the past transactions of the Savings Banks, were transferred in aid of the general revenue as the proceeds of a public institution. In view of the reduction of the deficit, it was considered unnecessary to continue the additional 10 per cent. on the import duties imposed by Law 26 of 1881, but it was considered expedient to continue for another year the excise on rum, at the rate of 8s. a gallon.

30. A minute from the Governor was read, laying before the Council a copy of a despatch from the Secretary of State for the Colonies, stating that Her Majesty's Government would be prepared to ask Parliament to consent to the payment of one-half of the amount of the damages and costs of the suits respecting the schooner "*Florence*," on learning that the payment of the other half from colonial funds had been sanctioned by the Legislative Council ; and directing the Governor to bring a vote for the amount before the Council. His Excellency accordingly requested the Council to pass the vote required.

31. On the motion for the vote being put to the Council, *eight* official members, and the commander of the forces, voted in support of it, and the *six* unofficial members present voted against it.

At the meeting of the Council on the 11th November, the Governor announced that since their last meeting he had received the resignations of *six* unofficial members, namely, Messrs. McDowell, Gibb, Shirley, Michael Solomon, Kerr, and Henderson. Mr. Sewell, who was in England, tendered his resignation direct to the Secretary of State for the Colonies.

32. *December 11th.*—Calamitous fire in Kingston, by which the greater part of the business portion of the town, including the wharves, was destroyed, much valuable property consumed, and great distress occasioned to the poorer classes. A fund was speedily organised for the relief of the sufferers, to which liberal contributions were made by the inhabitants of the colony, and from other colonies, from England, and from the United States of America. Amongst the important buildings burnt were the Government Savings Bank and Telegraph Office; the Ordnance Stores and Wharf, the property of the Imperial Government; the premises of the Colonial Bank, with the exception of the resident clerk's quarters; and the two Jewish synagogues. The area of the portion of the city over which the fire extended was about *forty* acres, containing 589 houses. The market value of house property destroyed was estimated at between £150,000 and £200,000.

33. An elaborate paper was prepared by the Bishop of Jamaica, embodying suggestions as to the reconstruction of the burnt portions of the city; and this paper was read before a meeting of the Fire Relief Committee, deputations from which body subsequently waited upon the Governor, to press upon his Excellency the necessity of raising a loan, to enable the Government to make advances for the purpose of rebuilding edifices destroyed by the fire. The two principal proposals embodied in the Bishop's paper were:—(1) The creation of a corporation or trust, to exercise functions analogous to those exercised by the Peabody Trustees, and some other public bodies and corporations in England. (2) The building of a sea-wall, with wharves of a uniform design, along the entire sea frontage of the city.

34. The value of the exports in 1881-2 amounted to

£1,549,058, against £1,178,594 in 1880-1, and £1,517,015 in 1875-6; giving an increase of £370,464 on 1880-1, £32,043 on 1875-6, and £205,354 on the average of the five years preceding 1881-2.

1883.—The valuable suggestion of his lordship the Bishop fell through, and the greater part of the burnt district of the city remains in ruin, and will remain for many years, probably, —a sad memorial of the destructive conflagration. Several mercantile places have been rebuilt, however, on plans affording greater protection from fire than usual. The year has been noted for the continuous stream of emigration from the island to Colon, on the isthmus of Darien or Panama, of labouring men, seeking employment on the Canal works. Many thousands have left, and their families suffer want in consequence. From a single church on the north side of the island, 300 communicants and 200 adherents have gone off, leaving at least 1,000 members of their families to suffer. Suffering has been intensified in some districts, notably the large plains in the parish of St. Elizabeth, by drought during several months, succeeded by swarms of caterpillars destroying the tender plants after the fall of a few genial showers.

35. Agitation against Crown government still prevails, especially as no answer has been received to a petition addressed to Her Majesty the Queen in Council. It is stated by the public press that the Imperial Government is indifferent about events in Jamaica; that the Government here—that is to say, the Privy Council, presided over by the Governor, who is authorised to reject their counsel if he thinks proper—is virtually a dictatorship of one man, only relieved from utter abhorrence by an impression that it is subject to the control of the Colonial minister; that this control is only ideal, being based upon reports of the Governor's views from his own interested standpoint,—as in a recent report it was stated,—“The usual good order and peace of the community has not been disturbed. There has been a considerable amount of political agitation, but it has not reached the peasantry, to whom political questions appear to be of no interest; and the

intelligent among them manifest from time to time, in their own way, their confidence in the justice and equity of the administration of the Government."

36. The island press concludes,—“It would seem to be implied that because the mass of the peasantry are too ignorant to be interested in political questions, and a few intelligent ones among them manifest confidence, therefore the agitation carried on by the intelligent classes and owners of property is utterly unworthy of notice ; that because good order and peace prevail, therefore no grievances exist ; and that political agitation is not likely to be effective till it affects the ignorant peasantry, and produces disorder ! But men of intelligence cannot be expected to endure such contumely for ever. The tumultuous ocean is never allayed, but wreck remains as a witness of its power. In all civilised countries the possessors of property and intelligence—not the unthinking mass—control the government. And the age is past when those who do so can attempt to oppress or trample on the rights of the peasantry. It is only in righteously ministering to the welfare of even the lowest, that the higher grades of society can enjoy their privileges in peace and safety.”

37. The estimates and the Appropriation Law for 1882-3 were passed by the Legislative Council, notwithstanding the resignation of the unofficial members ; and since the 30th September the expenditure of the Government has not been duly sanctioned by the legislature ; and Her Majesty's Government deemed it expedient not to take immediate steps for correcting the irregularity that had arisen. Sir Anthony Musgrave left the colony, and the administration of the Government was committed to Major-General Gamble, C.B., commanding the troops in the West Indies.

38. *December 21st.*—Arrival of Sir Henry Wylie Norman, who assumed the government of the colony ; and shortly after announced that the petition from Jamaica had been very graciously received by the Queen, and that Her Majesty's Government are prepared to recommend a change in the deserved direction. Lord Derby “admits that the existing

legislature could not have been intended, and ought not now to be regarded, as a permanent institution, and fully sympathises with those who desire that the people of the island should take an effective part, through their elected representatives, in managing its affairs. That the advance of education and the improved position of the negro population have no doubt, since 1866, largely increased the number of persons who would now possess, and could intelligently exercise, such a franchise as that under which the members of Assembly were formerly elected. But Her Majesty's Government cannot find any sufficient ground for believing that the sudden and complete transfer of control over public affairs to a council containing a large majority of unofficial members, most of them being elective, would secure the various interests which have to be regarded. A moderate step in advance will be preferable; and it will be possible, without any great change in the outlines of the constitution, to admit the people, through their representatives, to a material share in the decision of those questions which most directly concern them, and more particularly in the control of finance and public expenditure.

"It is proposed, then, that the Council shall contain the same number of members as at present, with the same proportion of official and unofficial members, but that the unofficial members shall be elected, and not nominated; and, in order that the voice thus given to the representatives of the people may be accompanied by a substantial power over finance, the Governor will be guided by the following instructions, namely,—that in questions involving the imposition of new taxes, or the appropriation of public money for any other purpose than the payment of salaries already assigned to persons now employed on the fixed establishment of the colony, the vote of the official members shall, as a general rule, not be recorded against that of the unofficial members, if not less than six of the latter are present and agreed.

"It will be observed that this instruction is limited in its application to financial questions, the object being to give to the representatives of the people a similar power, in respect

of taxation and expenditure, to that enjoyed under the constitution of British Guiana by the Combined Court in that colony. But I anticipate that there may be other questions of local interest, for the decision of which there will be no necessity for you to require the presence in the Council of the whole number of official members.

“Each official member will also, of course, exercise his own discretion as to the vote which he should give in any question which you may have declared to be an open one. In Jamaica, as in all other colonies and countries, the officers of the Government having seats in the legislature, are necessarily obliged, by the conditions of their employment, to support the Government by their vote, unless expressly excused from doing so ; but it is the desire of Her Majesty’s Government that the elective members of the Council shall feel that there is no disposition unnecessarily to use the united official vote against them ; and in the event—I trust improbable—of your finding it necessary to do so in any case, you will report the circumstances to me without delay, even although no protest may have been made by the elective members. . . .

“I request you, therefore, to appoint a Royal Commission as soon as possible after your arrival, to ascertain and report what franchise or combination of franchises would constitute a reasonably large body of electors, qualified by knowledge and education to form an intelligent judgment on public affairs, and so ensure the fair representation of all interests. It is, of course, the object of Her Majesty’s Government not to place the selection of the representatives in the hands of a large class of illiterate or ignorant voters, but as long as this is avoided, to make the representation really popular.” . . .

His Excellency is further advised to “take a vote of credit, authorising the Government to make payments for six months from the 30th September last, at the rate fixed in the last Appropriation Law, on account of all the services therein provided for, and to reserve the estimates for the remainder of the year now current, for the consideration of the full Council.”

Lord Derby adds—“In considering the estimates for the

second half of the financial year, the elected members of the Council will, I am confident, be sensible of the importance of securing efficiency, no less than economy, in the administration, and will give their careful consideration to the recommendations of the Royal Commission with respect to each department; and it will probably be necessary to make no other stipulation with regard to the passing of the estimates, than that the emoluments of no person now actually holding an appointment under the Government shall be reduced without the concurrence of the Government. On the occurrence of a vacancy it will, of course, be for the Council to consider what should be the future salary of the vacated office before it is filled up; but it will be generally admitted that the public officers and servants of the colony should be secured in their places, and be able to feel that they are not dependent upon the annual vote of a legislature differently constituted from that under which they have acquired their present positions."

This brings the History of Jamaica down to the close of the calendar year one thousand eight hundred and eighty-three, and leaves us with the promise of

"A NEW DEPARTURE."

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## CHAPTER VI.—POLITICAL CONSTITUTION.

1. From the time of the English conquest of Jamaica to the Restoration of Charles II., the island was under military jurisdiction. In February 1661, Colonel D'Oyley, who had then the chief command, under a commission from the Lord Protector, was confirmed in his office, and instructed "to take unto him a Council of twelve persons, to be elected by the people, to advise and assist him in the execution of his trust." In the latter part of the same year, Lord Windsor, who succeeded Colonel D'Oyley, was directed, "with the advice of the Council, to call Assemblies to make laws, and upon imminent



necessity to levy money ; such laws to be in force for two years, and no longer, unless approved by the Crown." Lord Windsor brought with him the King's proclamation, dated Whitehall, the 14th December 1661, declaring "that all children of natural-born subjects of England, to be born in Jamaica, shall from their respective births be reputed to be free denizens of England, and shall have the same privileges, to all intents and purposes, as free-born subjects of England."

2: Lord Windsor was succeeded by Sir Thomas Modyford, who was appointed Governor-in-Chief by a commission under the Great Seal, which empowered him "either to constitute, by his own authority, a Privy Council of twelve persons, or to continue the old one, and to alter, change, or augment it as he thought fit." He was also authorised, "with the advice of a majority of the Council, to frame a method for establishing General Assemblies, and from time to time to call such Assemblies together, and with their consent to pass all manner of laws, reserving to himself a negative voice ; also upon imminent occasions to levy money." In July, 1664, Sir Thomas Modyford issued a writ for the election of two Assembly men for each parish ; which Assembly met in the October following and passed a body of laws. These laws not having been confirmed, would have expired at the end of two years, but that they were continued in force until the end of his administration by an order in council. Sir Thomas Modyford was recalled, and Sir Thomas Lynch was appointed Lieutenant-Governor. The laws passed by the Assembly during the temporary administration of Sir Thomas Lynch also remained unconfirmed.

3. On the 3rd December 1674, Lord Vaughan was appointed Governor, and authorised, "with the Council and Assembly, to pass laws for the good government of the island ;" but the laws thus passed, instead of being confirmed, were referred to the Lords of the Committee for Trade and Plantations, who recommended to the King "that, for the future, no Legislative Assembly be called without Your Majesty's special directions ; but that, upon emergencies, the

Governor do acquaint Your Majesty by letters with the necessity of calling such an Assembly, and at the same time do present unto Your Majesty a scheme of such acts as he shall think fit and necessary, that Your Majesty may take the same into consideration, and return them in the form wherein Your Majesty shall think fit that they be enacted; that the Governor, upon the receipt of Your Majesty's commands, shall then summon an Assembly, and propose the said laws for their consent, so that the same method in legislative matters be made use of in Jamaica as in Ireland, according to the form prescribed by Poyning's Law; and that, therefore, the present style of enacting laws, 'by the Governor, Council, and representatives of the Commons assembled,' be converted into the style of 'be it enacted by the King's Most Excellent Majesty, by and with the consent of the General Assembly.'"

4. The recommendation having been approved, a body of laws was prepared by the committee, and the Earl of Carlisle was appointed Governor of the island, with instructions to "offer them to the Assembly for their consent." This having been done, they were all rejected—the Assembly giving their reasons for doing so in an address to the Governor. The main arguments therein urged were (independently of the objection that the laws themselves contained many fundamental errors), "the inconvenience of such a system of legislation when the distance of Jamaica from England was considered; that the nature of all colonies being changeable, the laws consequently must be adapted to the interest of the place, and must alter with it; that the people would thereby lose the satisfaction, which through their representatives they had previously enjoyed, of a deliberative power in the making of laws; that the new form of government rendered the Governor absolute; and that by the former mode of enacting laws the Royal Prerogative was better secured."

5. The whole question having been submitted to the Privy Council in England, the King was recommended to adhere to the previous decision, and to empower the Earl of Carlisle, in case the Assembly again rejected the laws, to "govern

according to the laws of England, where the different nature and constitution of the colony may permit ; and in other cases to act with the advice of his Council, in such a manner as should be necessary and proper for the good government of the island, until His Majesty's further orders." In pursuance of this report, the same laws as had been brought out in the first instance by the Earl of Carlisle, and rejected, were again presented to the Assembly, and again rejected. The opinion of the law officers of the Crown was then taken on the question whether Jamaica could be governed by the laws of England, and the Attorney-General (Sir C. Wearge) decided "that the people of Jamaica had no right to be governed by the laws of England, but by such laws as are made there, and established by His Majesty's authority," the Solicitor-General (Sir Philip York) concurring.

6. About this time Colonel Long, the Chief-Justice of the island, and late Speaker of the Assembly, arrived in England as a state prisoner, to answer the charges of having struck the King's name out of the revenue bill that had recently been sent to the Council from the Assembly, and for having advised and framed the last address of the Assembly, protesting against the change of government. He was several times heard before the King and Privy Council, and pointed out with such force of argument the evil tendency of the measures which had been pursued, that the English ministry reluctantly submitted. Thereupon a second commission was issued to the Earl of Carlisle, dated the 3rd November 1680, in which it was declared that "the Assembly, or the major part of them, shall have power, with the advice and consent of the Governor and Council, to make laws for the good of the island and its inhabitants, not repugnant to the laws of England, provided that all laws so to be made shall be transmitted to the King for approval or rejection, and any so disapproved to be void."

7.—In the following year an Act was passed by the three branches of the legislature thus constituted, declaring that "in every Assembly hereafter to be called by His Majesty's

writs, there shall be chosen three representatives for the parish of St. Catherine, the like number for the parish of Port Royal, and two for each of the respective parishes that now are, or hereafter shall be, in the island." The Act 5 William and Mary, chap. 3, sess. 1, enacted that "there shall be chosen three representatives to serve in every Assembly for the town and parish of Kingston."

8. This form of government received confirmation in the commissions of successive governors, but few of the laws passed in the colony obtained the assent of the Crown. The recommendation of the Committee of Trade and Plantations for the abrogation of the original constitution was ascribed to the desire of the ministry of Charles II. to secure a perpetual annuity to the Crown, which the House of Assembly had systematically refused ; and the continued non-confirmation of the colonial statutes was attributed to the same cause. But whatever might have been the reason of this prolonged controversy, it was finally settled in 1728, when an agreement was entered into by the ministry of George II. and the Assembly, to settle on the Crown "an irrevocable revenue" of £8,000 (subsequently increased to £10,000) Old Jamaica currency, equal to £6,000 per annum, on condition that the body of their laws should receive the Royal assent ; and that "all such laws and statutes of England as had been at any time esteemed, introduced, used, accepted or received as laws in this island, should be and continue laws of this His Majesty's island of Jamaica for ever." The "perpetual revenue" was principally for the support of the local government, and the maintenance of the forts.

9. From the date of this decision, the constitutional rights of the Assembly remained undisturbed until the year 1839, when the Imperial Parliament passed the West India Prisons Act, by which they legislated for the internal regulations of the prisons of Jamaica.

The House of Assembly resented this interference with their legislative functions, by three times resolving to do no business "until they were left to the free exercise of their inherent

rights as British subjects." Thereupon Governor Sir Lionel Smith recommended, and the Government of Lord Melbourne sanctioned, the introduction of a bill into the Imperial Parliament for the suspension of the political constitution of the colony.

Mr. Labouchere, the Under-Secretary of State for the Colonies, in presenting the measure, stated "that, on a general review of the whole case, Her Majesty's Government were of opinion that it would be advisable to suspend the constitution of Jamaica for a limited number of years, and to provide that during that interval the legislative functions should not be exercised by a Governor, a Council, and a House of Assembly, but should reside in the Governor and Council alone."

By the party that owned Sir Robert Peel as its leader this measure was vigorously opposed. On the second reading of the bill it was thrown out by a majority, swollen by some seceders from the Ministerial ranks. On this Lord Melbourne resigned. Invited to form a ministry, Sir Robert Peel attempted the task, but failed, under the pressure of the Bed-Chamber difficulty; the Whigs thereupon returned to office.

10. The Jamaica bill was then carried through the House of Commons, but it was afterwards amended by the Lords; and the result of these long protracted discussions was an Act that declared that, from and after the expiration of two calendar months from the time of the Assembly being convened for the despatch of business, the Governor in council should have power to revive and continue in force, or to re-enact, any of the expired laws "which should not have been before then revived or continued in force, or re-enacted by the Governor, Council, and Assembly of the island." The Act was laid before the Assembly, and Sir Charles Metcalfe, the newly-appointed Governor, having at the same time delivered a conciliatory speech, they passed a series of resolutions declaring that "all they sought was the continued enjoyment of those rights and privileges that were confirmed in 1661, and which were no less dear to them than to their fellow-subjects in the mother country,"—and then receded from their previous determination.

11. The work of legislation was then resumed, and it continued without interruption until the 20th May 1853, when the Assembly passed the following resolution :—"That in consequence of the rejection of the Revenue Bills by the second branch of the Legislature during the last session, and the recklessness and utter disregard of the interests of the colony thereby displayed, and this House having failed in their endeavours made at the opening of the present session to obtain any assurance that the honorable Board of Council will make any concession, however reasonable, the House feels that it cannot with any confidence continue to originate legislative measures for the benefit of its constituents; and, in self-respect and vindication of the rights of the people, it declines to do any business with the honorable Board of Council." The House then adjourned, and another "dead-lock" in legislation ensued. The Imperial Government approved generally of the course pursued by the Council (in which they were supported by the Governor), but availed themselves of the expiration of Sir Charles Grey's term of office to appoint a successor, who would be independent of the prejudices arising out of the retrenchment struggles.

12. Sir Henry Barkly was accordingly commissioned as Governor, and met the Legislature for the first time in October 1853. After announcing the willingness of the British Government to grant a loan for the purpose of compensating such office-holders as might, in a general retrenchment scheme, lose their appointments, or sustain a diminution of income, Sir Henry Barkly called on the Legislature to introduce "such political reforms as the experience of the mother country had demonstrated to be most conducive to efficient and economical government, and best calculated to avert the recurrence of ruinous struggles between the various powers of the State." The result was the passing of the Act for the better government of the island (17 Vic., chap. 29), by which the Governor for the time being was authorised to appoint an Executive Committee (who should be members of the Legislature) for the purpose of assisting him in the general administration of

the affairs of the island, and acting as official organs of communication between him and the other branches of the Legislature.

13. The Act also prohibited the raising or expending of any money, except and until the same was recommended by the Executive. The old Legislative Council (which consisted almost exclusively of officials) was by the same enactment abolished, and a new council, consisting of 17 members, of whom five only were to be holders of office, was created. This new Legislative Council was invested with "the like political powers and authorities as the House of Lords, of initiating or originating any legislative measures not involving the imposition of taxes, or the appropriation of public money." [The old Board of Council did not possess this power.] The qualification of an unofficial member of the Legislative Council was the possession of a freehold estate in the island, producing a clear annual income to him of £300, or the payment of direct taxes to the extent of £30 on a freehold held by him in the island.

14. The House of Assembly was continued as "heretofore,"—the number of representatives being 47. No person was eligible to be elected a member of Assembly unless he was a freeholder, and possessed, besides, one of the following qualifications :—

1. A clear annual income, after payment of all just debts, of £150 arising from lands.
2. A clear annual income as aforesaid, arising partly from income, the produce of any freehold office, or of any business, after deducting all charges and expenses, of £200.
3. A clear annual income as aforesaid, arising from freehold office, or any business, after deducting all charges of such office or business, of £300.
4. The payment annually of direct taxes or of export taxes, or any one or more of them, to the extent of £10 or upwards.

The qualifications of the electors were :—

1. A freehold of the clear annual value of £6 or upwards.
2. The receipt of rent payable on lands of the annual value of £20.
3. The occupation of a house, as tenant, of the annual value of £20.
4. The receipt of an annual salary of not less than £50.
5. The payment of direct taxes amounting to 20s. or upwards.
6. The possession of invested money to the extent of not less than £100.

15. In 1863 the population of the electoral districts was 441,264 ; the number of registered electors, 1,798 ; the number that voted 1,482. These figures show that there was one registered elector to every 245 persons in the island in the year 1863 ; and that one person out of every 297 voted at the general election held in that year. In 1865, after the suppression of the disturbance in St. Thomas-in-the-East, Governor Eyre urged on the legislature the unsuitability of the then existing form of government to meet the circumstances of the community, and the necessity of making some sweeping change by which a strong government might be created. The Legislative Council, in their reply, assured his Excellency that he “might confidently rely upon their giving their best consideration to any measure tending to establish that strong government, so necessary for the well-being of this community ;” and the Assembly expressed their “full conviction that nothing but the existence of a strong government would prevent this island lapsing into the condition of a second Haiti.” These assurances were followed by the passing of the 29th Vic., cap. 11, declaring “that from and after the coming into operation of this Act, the present Legislative Council and House of Assembly, and all and every the functions and privileges of these two bodies, respectively, shall cease and determine absolutely.” Another Act was also passed in the same session, declaring that “it shall be lawful for Her Majesty the Queen to create and constitute a govern-



ment for this island, in such form and with such powers as to Her Majesty might best seem fitting, and from time to time to alter or amend such government." Effect was given to these Acts of the Colonial Legislature by an Act of the Imperial Parliament, 29 Vic., cap. 12, entitled "An Act to make provision for the government of Jamaica," which enacted that, "in construing the secondly recited Act, the term government should be held to include legislature, and that the powers exercisable by Her Majesty under the two Acts should be exercisable by Her Majesty in council.

16. In pursuance of these enactments, a single chamber was established, under the designation of "the Legislative Council of Jamaica," by an order in council dated the 11th June 1866. The Council thus created was to consist of "such officers and such persons" as Her Majesty might think fit to appoint, to be respectively official and unofficial members. The senior Military Officer for the time being in command of Her Majesty's regular troops within the island, and the five persons for the time being exercising the respective offices of Colonial Secretary, of Attorney-General, of Financial Secretary, of Director of Roads, and of Collector of Customs, were declared to be official members of the Council *virtute officii*. By a subsequent order in council, dated the 11th November 1868, so much of the above order as declared that the Financial Secretary, the Director of Roads, and the Collector of Customs should be official members of the Board, was revoked, and Her Majesty was empowered, from time to time, "to appoint such officers or persons as she may think fit to be official members of the Council."

17. The powers of the Legislative Council are defined in the instructions to the Governor for the time being. Any member may propose questions for debate, "excepting only that no law shall be enacted, nor any vote or resolution passed, nor any question admitted to debate, where the object of such law, vote, resolution or question may be to dispose of or charge any part of the revenue, unless such law, vote, resolution, or question shall have been first proposed by the

Governor, or the proposal of the same shall have been expressly allowed or directed by him." Further: the Governor is not to assent to any bill of any of the classes hereinafter specified, unless such bill shall contain a suspension clause, "or unless the Governor shall have satisfied himself that an urgent necessity exists, requiring that such bill be brought into immediate operation, in which case he is authorised to assent to such bill, unless the same shall be repugnant to the law of England, or inconsistent with any obligations imposed upon Her Majesty by treaty":—

1. Any bill for the divorce of persons joined together in holy matrimony.
2. Any bill whereby any grant of land, or money, or other donation, or gratuity, may be made to himself.
3. Any bill whereby any increase or diminution may be made in the number, salary, or allowances of the public officers.
4. Any bill whereby any paper or other currency may be made a legal tender, except the coin of the realm, or other gold or silver coin.
5. Any bill establishing any banking association, or amending or altering the constitution, powers, or privileges of any banking association.
6. Any bill imposing differential duties.
7. Any bill, the provisions of which shall appear inconsistent with obligations imposed upon Her Majesty by treaty.
8. Any bill interfering with the discipline or control of Her Majesty's forces in the island by land and sea.
9. Any bill of an extraordinary nature and importance, whereby the Queen's prerogative, or the rights or property of her subjects not residing in the island, or the trade and shipping of the United Kingdom and its dependencies, may be prejudiced.
10. Any bill whereby persons not of European birth or descent may be subjected or made liable to any dis-

abilities or restrictions to which persons of European birth or descent are not also subjected or made liable.

11. Any bill containing provisions to which Her Majesty's assent has been once refused, or which have been disallowed by Her Majesty.

The Governor is President of the new Legislative Council, and five members constitute a quorum for the despatch of business. The laws passed are styled "Laws enacted by the Governor and Legislative Council of the Island of Jamaica."

18. There is also a Privy Council, consisting of the Lieutenant-Governor, the senior Military Officer in the island, the Colonial Secretary, the Attorney-General, and such other persons, not to exceed eight in number, as may be named by the Queen, or provisionally appointed by the Governor, subject to the approval of Her Majesty. "The Governor is to consult in all cases with the Privy Councillors, excepting only when the matter to be decided would in his judgment sustain material prejudice by consultation, or to be too unimportant to require their advice." "The Governor is authorised to act in opposition to the advice and decision of the Privy Council, if in any case it shall appear right to do so, and to report to the Secretary of State for the Colonies the grounds and reasons of his opposition ; and any member may record on the minutes the nature of the advice or opinion offered and rejected."

Previous to the passing of the 17th Vic., cap. 29, the Privy Council had at its disposal all the moneys arising from the quit rents of the colony. In 1853 the quit rents were declared to be part of the general revenue, and a thousand pounds per annum was appropriated to the Governor and Privy Council for extraordinary and unforeseen expenses. A similar sum is still voted to the Governor and Privy Council in the annual estimates for the like purpose.

19. On the introduction of Crown Government into Jamaica, and the consequent abolition of the political franchise, it became necessary to provide for the discharge of the duties hitherto performed by the elected boards and corporations. Law 8 of 1866 was therefore passed by the Legislative Council,

and assented to by the Queen, as a part of the new constitutional arrangements of the colony. By this law the Governor is authorised annually to appoint Municipal Boards and Road Boards, to take the place of the elected vestries and the old commissioners of highways and bridges ; and also to appoint churchwardens instead of the elected churchwardens. But under Law 30 of 1881, the Governor may cease to appoint churchwardens for any parish in which all the churches of the communion of the Church of England have become vested in the Incorporated Lay Body, created by Law 30 of 1870 for the disestablishment of the Church of England in Jamaica.

THE ESTIMATES of the parochial expenditure are prepared by the Municipal Boards, under the sanction of the Governor. The estimates of public expenditure are prepared by the Colonial Secretary, under the instructions of the Governor. These are annually presented to the Legislative Council in the form of a minute from the Governor. When considered, they are incorporated in an Appropriation Law, the schedule of which becomes the civil list of the year.

THE REVENUE.—The principal heads of general revenue are import duties, excise, and stamps. Taxes on houses, wheels, and horsekind are imposed for parochial purposes. All these rates and taxes are collected by a Collector-General, and a staff of collectors and assistant collectors of customs, excise and internal revenue. The collections are received and disbursed by a Public Treasurer, and the accounts are audited by an Auditor-General. All the revenue officers are under bond for the faithful and honest discharge of their duties. The revenue received for public or general purposes during the year ending 30th September 1882, amounted to £466,696 ; and for local or parochial purposes to £90,440 ; total, £557,136. The expenditure during the same period was :—for general purposes, £451,078 ; for local purposes, £82,631 ; total, £533,709. The rate of taxation was 14s. 8d. per head of the population for general purposes, and 3s. per head for local

purposes ; total, 17s. 8d. per head. The number of persons who paid direct taxes during the financial year 1882 was as follows :—

Under £1	...	...	...	...	72,259
Under £2	...	...	...	...	8,286
From £2 and upwards	...	...	...	...	6,403
					<hr/>
Total	...	...	...	...	86,948

THE JUDICIAL ESTABLISHMENT consists of a Supreme Court of Judicature, an Admiralty Court, District Courts, and Courts of Petty Sessions. The Supreme Court has incorporated with it the High Court of Chancery, the Incumbered Estates Court, the Court of Ordinary, the Court of Divorce and Matrimonial Causes, the Chief Court of Bankruptcy, and the Circuit Courts. The several divisions of the Supreme Court, except the Circuit Courts, sit in Kingston, at times appointed by the judges. For the purposes of the sitting of the Circuit Courts the island is divided into parochial districts. There is a Chief-Justice and two Assistant Judges, who divide the duties of the Supreme Court by arrangements among themselves.

The Court of Admiralty has an organisation of its own. It is a branch of the Admiralty Court of England. The matters in respect to which this court exercises jurisdiction particularly, relate to seamen, pilotage, salvage, damages by ships, &c. It sits whenever there is business to be disposed of. For the purposes of the District Courts the island is divided into six districts, consisting of adjacent localities. There are five District Court Judges,—the Junior Assistant Judge of the Supreme Court presiding in the Civil Division of the City of Kingston District Court. A District Court Judge presides in each of the other District Courts. Courts of Petty Sessions are held in the several parishes, and are presided over by stipendiary or local magistrates. The Attorney-General and his two assistants act as public prosecutors. Barristers, advocates, and solicitors practise in the several courts of the

island. The Police Force consists of 21 inspectors and sub-inspectors, and 673 sub-officers and constables; 19 water policemen, and 1,070 rural policemen; they are under the command of an Inspector-General of Police. There is a General Penitentiary, two gaols, and nine other prisons in different parts of the island. A Government Reformatory for boys is maintained at Stony Hill, and one for girls at Admiral's Penn, in St. Andrew.

### TRADE.

The value of the merchandise and other articles imported during the financial year 1882 stood thus:—

From the United Kingdom ...	£726,413
From the Dominion of Canada ...	147,723
From the United States ...	403,207
From other countries ...	44,619
<b>Total value ...</b>	<b>£1,321,962</b>

The following represents the value of the necessaries imported, and included above:—

Food-stuffs ...	£484,554
Clothing ...	400,641
Building materials ...	58,297
Hardware ...	64,478
Machinery and tools ...	41,449
Coals and coke ..	29,588
Books and other printed matter ...	6,618
<b>Total ...</b>	<b>£1,095,675</b>

The export trade of the island stood thus in 1882:—

To the United Kingdom ...	£968,324
To the Dominion of Canada ...	199,787
To the United States ...	275,704
To other countries ...	105,243
<b>Total ...</b>	<b>£1,549,058</b>

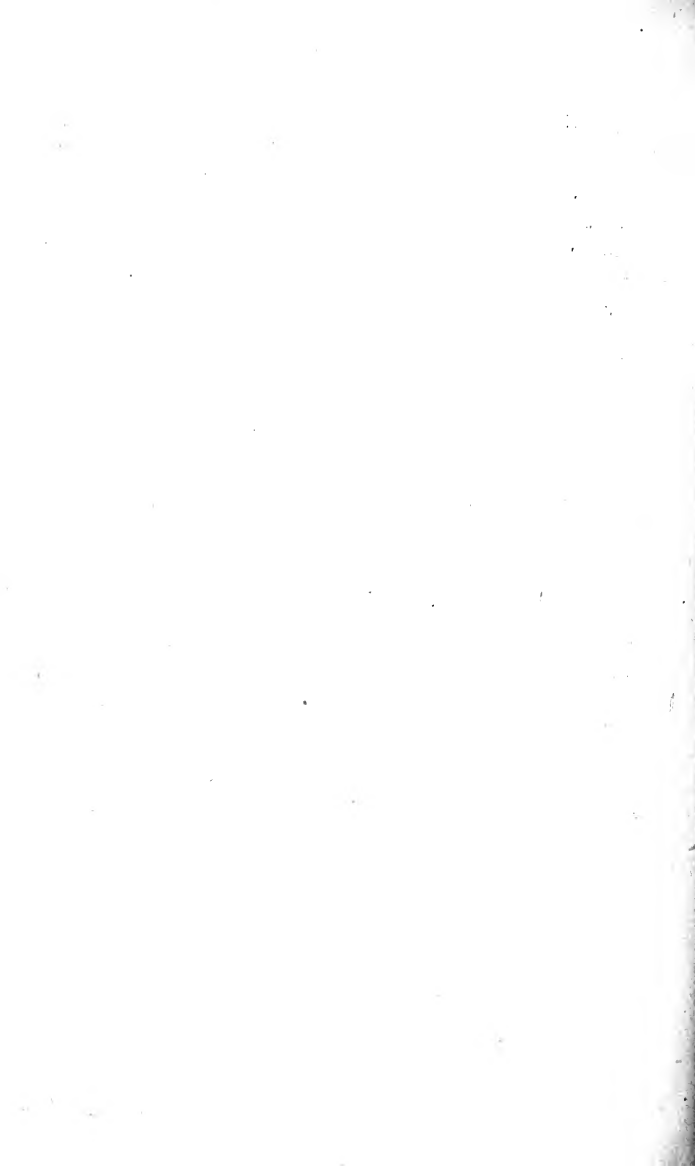
The quantity and the value of the produce exported stood thus :—

	<i>Quantity.</i>	<i>Value.</i>
Sugar ...	38,392 hhds. ...	£614,283
Rum ...	22,742 phns. ...	295,645
Coffee ...	66,238 cwts. ...	133,535
Pimento ...	76,022 cwts. ...	112,817
Dyewoods ...	34,532 tons ...	103,034
Fruit ...	.....	124,269
Tobacco, includ- ing cigars }	104,581 lbs. ...	14,357
Minor products	.....	63,437
Cattle ...	497 head ...	4,266
Horsekind	399 head ...	6,273
Miscellaneous	.....	77,141

The shipping employed in the export business of the island during the year 1882 was as follows :—

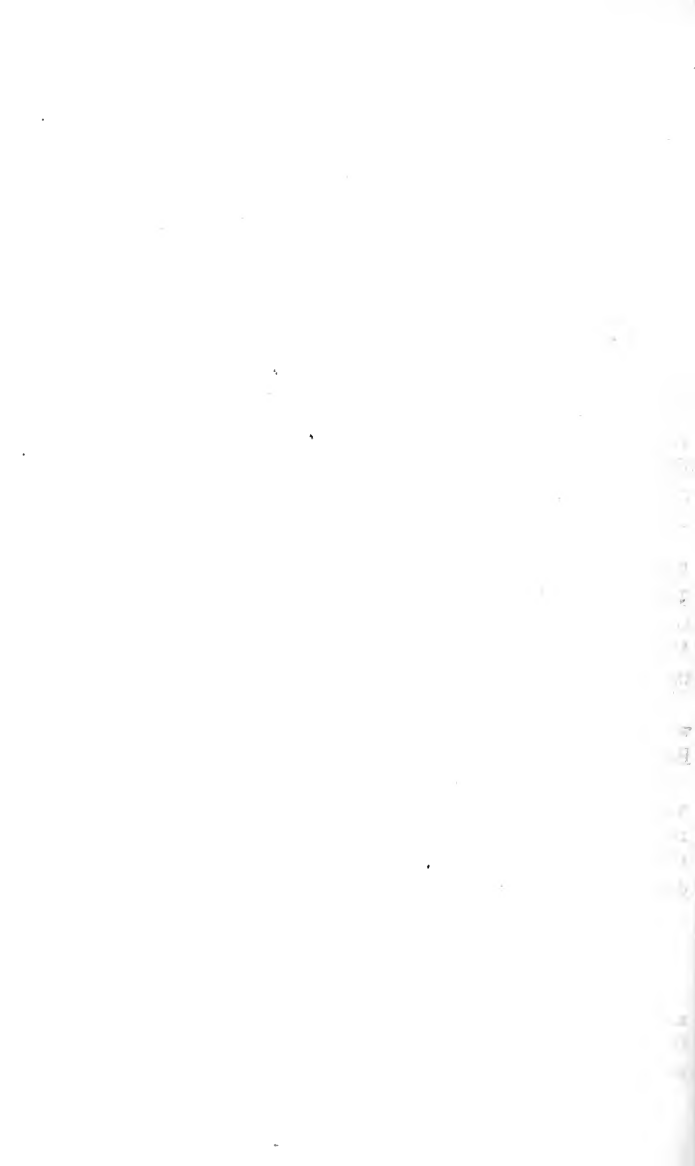
	<i>Number.</i>	<i>Tons.</i>	<i>Crew.</i>
Steam vessels	282	258,648	11,497
Sailing vessels	300	61,386	2,370
Total ...	582	320,034	13,867

The above tonnage, &c., includes the steam vessels of thirteen lines of steamers that trade with the island. By nearly all these steamships mails are made up for all parts of the world. In addition to this mode of external communication is the ocean cable of the West Indian and Panama Telegraph Company.





DESCRIPTION  
OF  
J A M A I C A .



# DESCRIPTION OF JAMAICA.

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## CHAPTER VII.—LOCATION, AND NAMES OF PARISHES.

JAMAICA, an island in the Caribbean Sea, is situated between  $17^{\circ} 43'$  and  $18^{\circ} 32'$  N. lat., and  $76^{\circ} 11'$  and  $78^{\circ} 20' 50''$  W. long., about 5,000 miles south-west of England : 100 miles west of Hayti or St. Domingo, and 90 miles south of Cuba ; 445 miles north of Carthagena ; 540 miles from Colon ; and 310 from Cape Gracias à Dios, in the Mosquito Territory.

From the fact of its being in the direct track between Europe, the United States, and the Isthmus of Panama, Jamaica must possess advantages and afford facilities for trade and commerce between these points ; and when the Panama Canal is completed, it must be largely benefited by the increased traffic that will pass in this direction.

The extreme length of Jamaica is 144 miles ; its greatest width is 49 miles ; its least width (from Kingston to Annotto Bay) is  $21\frac{1}{2}$  miles.

Prior to 1867 Jamaica contained twenty-two parishes, of very unequal extent ; and it was considered that reduction in number, and equalisation in extent and population, would tend to a better and more economical administration in the departments of justice, police, and revenue.

The parishes were then reduced to fourteen, as follows :—

### THE COUNTY OF SURREY.

1. KINGSTON: including the city and parish of Kingston, and the following portions of the parish of St. Andrew, namely, Smith's Village, Hannah's Town, Fletcher's Town, the land on each side of the Slipe Pen road to Torrington Bridge, between

the Admiral's Pen gully on the one side and the racecourse on the other; the racecourse, Allman's Town, and the lands south of the south gate of the Camp, and to the westward of the road leading from thence to Lisle's Chapel, together with the town of Port Royal, and the tract called the Palisades, off the former parish of Port Royal.

2. ST. ANDREW: consisting of the remaining portions of Saint Andrew and Port Royal. Head station, Half-way Tree.

3. ST. THOMAS: consisting of the parishes of St. David and of St. Thomas-in-the-East, exclusive of the Manchioneal district. Morant Bay, the parish town.

4. PORTLAND: including St. George's and the Manchioneal district, from the Hector's River, and a line drawn between its source and the nearest source of the Rio Grande. Port Antonio, the parish town.

#### COUNTY OF MIDDLESEX.

1. ST. CATHERINE: to include St. Dorothy, St. John, and St. Thomas-in-the-Vale. St. Jago de la Vega (Spanish Town), the parish town.

2. ST. MARY: to include Metcalfe. Port Maria, the parish town.

3. CLARENDON: to include Vere. Chapelton, the parish town.

4. ST. ANN: St. Ann's Bay, the parish town.

5. MANCHESTER: Mandeville, the parish town.

#### COUNTY OF CORNWALL.

1. TRELAWNY: Falmouth, the parish town.

2. ST. JAMES: Montego Bay, the parish town.

3. HANOVER: Lucea, the parish town.

4. WESTMORELAND: Savanna-la-Mar, the parish town.

5. ST. ELIZABETH: Black River, the parish town.

## CHAPTER VIII.—PHYSICAL FEATURES AND GENERAL STRUCTURE.

The foundation or basis of the island is composed of igneous<sup>1</sup> rocks, overlaying which are several distinct formations. The coast formation is of white and yellow limestone; the interior consists chiefly of the metamorphosed<sup>2</sup> and trap-pean<sup>3</sup> series, with carbonaceous shales<sup>4</sup> and conglomerate.<sup>5</sup> The only volcanic formation in the island is that at Lowlayton and Retreat Estates, in the parish of Portland, a mile from the sea; there is, however, no defined crater, and the volcanic materials are the only evidences remaining. From the sea level on all sides of Jamaica, a series of ridges gradually ascend towards the central range, from which they radiate, dividing the rivers and culminating in peaks—the highest elevation being 7,360 feet.

The mean daily heat at the sea level may be assumed at 80°; and as a sensible diminution of temperature is experienced for every 100 feet of elevation, it is easy to realise that great variation of climate must be presented by the higher and lower districts. The vapour ascending from the rivers, combining with that from the surrounding sea, produces, in the upper regions, clouds saturated with moisture, which, discharging on the elevated ranges, induce the vegetation characteristic of a colder climate. Still, it seems from recorded observations that the condensation of aqueous vapour is less at the highest than at the lower levels.

It is only during the “rainy seasons,” which occur generally in May and October, that a daily accumulation of vapour is observed to overcome the attractive influence of the Blue Mountains, thus filling the air with cumulus and nimbus clouds, which disperse over the whole island, and produce a general condensation which cools the atmosphere, equalising

<sup>1</sup> Pertaining to fire.

<sup>2</sup> Changed.

<sup>3</sup> In columns or strata.

<sup>4</sup> Slate coal-like clay.

<sup>5</sup> Lumpy, mixed, a pudding stone.

its temperature with that of the mountain summits, and thus moderating the action of the cooler land-wind of night, and sea-breeze by day.

Should, however, the condensation be derived from the accumulated masses of vapour collected by the solar influence in these latitudes, and brought by the trade-winds from the Atlantic Ocean—the rain is then precipitated with such force, and in such quantity, effecting the removal of the soil (especially on the steep surface of the hills) to such an extent, as to embarrass the processes of cultivation, and produce considerable local geological changes also. The prevalence of these heavy tropical rains for several days is attended with serious consequences; the rivers are swollen in some places to the depth of 100 feet or more above the ordinary level, where they are enclosed by high banks and escarpments; and the destructive force of the pressure exerted becomes most disastrous—rocks and trees are removed, hills reduced in size, plains formed, and the outline of the surface completely changed, even in the course of a few years only. As evidencing the violence of these tropical floods, and the force they exert, it may be mentioned, that it is stated on very respectable and reliable authority, that a block of limestone which had been precipitated into the Plantain Garden river, exposing 30 cubic feet of surface, was removed during a heavy flood in 1858, so that not a vestige of its existence remained; the great attrition to which it was subjected having caused its total disintegration.

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## CHAPTER IX.—ECONOMIC GEOLOGY.

### 1.—*Soils.*

The soils of Jamaica are derived from the disintegration of the strata of the formations, and present certain leading variations or kinds. In the more elevated districts the higher portions of the mountains are frequently covered with a red argillaceous soil (clay), derived from the decomposition of

felspathic<sup>1</sup> rocks, especially where the metamorphosed or altered rocks prevail. These clayey soils are extremely tenacious, and on the acclivities of the hills, where the climate is adapted for the cultivation of European vegetables, coffee is very extensively grown, especially at the elevation of 4,000 feet. Above this cinchona is profitably cultivated.

The soil overlying the black shales at the base of the conglomerates, if situated at considerable elevation, may also be employed for coffee cultivation, but it is more usually devoted to ground provisions, such as yams, cocoa, cassava, &c.; and this land seems to be preferred by the small cultivators, a circumstance which is rather due to the friable nature and easy working of the soil than to any special fertility, since other descriptions of surface are known to produce equally good, if not superior, results. From the conglomerate group the resulting soils are of a decidedly rich and fertile description, especially in the moist regions of the elevated table-lands of Clarendon, Cave Valley; the black grounds of Trelawny; around Maroon Town, in St. James; and Mexico, in St. Elizabeth, &c. This tendency to fertility is augmented where sediment from the calcareous districts (lime formations) is deposited and mixed with the local soils; thus the product per acre at Cave Valley is double that of the marly alluvium of Drax Hall, near the coast.

The yellow limestone soils, on the contrary, are distinguished by sterility—a character which also appertains to them in other islands—and offer a great contrast to the white limestone districts, which are abundantly clothed with trees. The vegetation affords a ready means of defining, in many cases, the limits of these two formations. The argillaceous<sup>2</sup> soil, or red earth occupying depressions in the limestone, largely associated with oxides of iron, is widely disseminated over the formation, and occupies many extensive plains. The deficiency of calcareous,<sup>3</sup> arenaceous,<sup>4</sup> and vegetable matter seems to

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<sup>1</sup> Compound of silica, alumina, and potash.

<sup>2</sup> Aluminium clay.

<sup>3</sup> Lime.

<sup>4</sup> Flinty.

influence the unproductive nature of the soil. Some of the alluvial soil contains the oxide of iron in modular concretions ; these are termed iron-shot soils, and are amongst the poorest known.

### 2.—*Road Material.*

On account of the great extent and general accessibility of the white limestone, it has been found most convenient to employ this stone in the construction and repair of the roads ; but, being usually soft and incoherent, it does not form a permanent material. A better result is, however, obtained when harder rocks, such as those of the altered strata, or of the conglomerate series, are associated with the limestone. This has usually been applied in the form of gravel collected from the rivers, which, binding in with the calcareous fragments, forms a hard and durable surface when subjected to the pressure of the constant traffic. No rock excepting the limestone has hitherto been quarried for this purpose, but it is probable the compact and felstone porphyries might with great advantage be worked and applied as road materials.

### 3.—*Building Stone.*

Few countries are better supplied with this material, which varies in degree from the finest marbles to coarse but enduring sandstone. The former are abundant along the southern base of the central chain of the eastern mountains, and form a zone extending from Roaring River (Plantain Garden district) to the heads of Green River (St. David's).

Sandstones possessing the property of freestones—*i.e.* workable under the chisel into square blocks for building purposes—are found in abundance near Serge Island, St. Thomas ; near Mooretown and Port Antonio, Portland ; and Smithville, Clarendon. But perhaps the most notable example occurs at Kellits in the latter parish, where the sugar works, hospital, residence, &c., are all erected of elaborately finished and even carved reddish-brown sandstone, composed of a fine grained grit made up of porphyritic fragments, and belonging to the conglomerite formation, which is finely developed. At Serge



Island the quarries of sandstone are readily accessible, and although the stone is rather a flaky like sandstone, still it seems to wear well, and has been employed in the construction of the residence, aqueduct, &c. The Portland chalkstone also answers well for building material, though soft and easily cut. The church at Port Antonio, the best specimen of architecture in the island, is built of this stone. St. Paul's Church at Siloah, in St. Elizabeth, has elaborate windows, a pulpit and font, constructed of this stone. The best quality occurs near the suspension bridge on the Yallahs, near Easington, in St. Thomas.

#### 4.—*Flag-stones.*

Beds of this substance are interstratified with the freestone at Serge Island, and constitute some of the thinner layers varying from three inches to a foot in thickness. The sandy beds of the dark carbonaceous shales also afford excellent paving-stones. These have been specially noticed below Windsor Forest (Yallahs) and on Morant river. A peculiar description of flagstone also occurs, exhibiting in a natural condition, perfect adaptation for practical uses, and it is surprising to find such an admirable material for this purpose unemployed. This stone is situated near the base of the white limestone series, and occurs in beds varying from an inch to three feet in thickness, and separated by thin argillaceous laminæ: the rock may be easily worked and separated by a common wooden wedge. The most prominent localities are Lloyds in St. David's, about three miles from the sea, and at Good Hope in Trelawny. At the latter place, slabs 7 and 8 feet long may be obtained in the greatest abundance, limited only by the difficulties of labour and transport.

#### 5.—*Marbles.*

A great variety of this substance exists in Jamaica. Specimens from upwards of forty different localities have been collected. A beautifully striped kind (white or grey, with brown or red) occurs extensively at Bath, St. Thomas; also at Garbrand Hall and Island Head;—a green variety at

Radnor, Sherwood Forest, Green River, below Woburn Lawn, and Newington, near Monklands. Fine black marbles are found near Clydesdale, Chigoefoot Market, Tweedside, Mount Moses, and in many other places. A red marble occurs near Clifton Church, St. Andrew, and on Robin's River, a tributary of the Rio Grande. But, as the most notable of all, we would call attention to the green serpentine rocks largely prevailing on the southern slope of the Blue Mountain district, extending upwards of five miles in length, commencing near Monklands, traversing Arntully Gap, descending to Woburn Lawn, then rising above the great landslip, and extending to the north-west of Radnor. The colour varies from a dark blackish green to a light pea-green, and scales of a mineral of dark metallic lustre are disseminated in the matrix. Being susceptible of acquiring a magnificent polish, and also of being cut or turned into any desirable shape, it may be made into many articles of ornament or utility.

#### 6.—*Porphyries.*

Many varieties of this rock afford beautiful examples for polishing and economical purposes: they are to be found chiefly above Windsor Forest and Arntully, and on the banks of the Rio Grande. The porphyries of Clarendon, though occasionally affording samples adapted for ornamentation, do not so generally present this character, on account of their compact and less crystalline texture.

#### 7.—*Granite.*

Rocks of this description prevail to a great extent, but their adaptation to economic purposes has not yet been accomplished, which may be partly due to the supposition that granitic rocks did not exist, but also to the absence of skill and enterprise necessary to work materials of such hardness and difficulty. There are many localities where a quality for ornamental or constructive properties, equal to any known, might be produced, but so long as the article can be imported more cheaply than worked in the country, it is probable the native resources will remain undisturbed.

8.—*Ochres.*

Beautiful red, pink, and yellow ochres occur on Hollis's Savanna, Clarendon, and near Port Antonio, Portland. A superior kaolin is also found in the former district, in veins, and quite of a soapy texture. The ochres are very abundant, and it is surprising that the inhabitants of the vicinity should pay sixpence per pound for foreign material, instead of utilising that which is deposited so extensively around them. Kaolin abounds also at Raymond Hall, below Strawberry Hill, and between Lawrence's Tavern and Mount Charles.

9.—*Sand.*

Pure quartzitic sands occur at Nonsuch, Portland; near Hermitage, Westmoreland; and other parts of the island.

10.—*Clays.*

A very superior greyish clay is obtained near Harker's Hall, St. Thomas-in-the-Vale; also at Raymond Hall, St. Andrew—in the latter case due to the disintegration of a granitic rock; near Kingston, both east and west of the city, where a good red clay is procured, and manufactured into articles of ordinary pottery. Many other parts of the island afford clays of common quality.

11.—*Carbonaceous Shales.*

It has been frequently supposed and asserted that lignites occur in Jamaica, but the researches of the Geological Survey have failed to establish the correctness of the statement. Insignificant examples of carbonized vegetable remains have been noticed, but this does not amount in any case to a deposit of lignite, at most only constituting carbonaceous shales, incapable of combustion. Their only application consists in their employment as manure on sterile soils.

12.—*Water.*

Nearly all the springs issue from the upper portion of a blue clay which forms the base of the yellow limestone, or divides that series from the underlying formation. The

existence of the clay may be ascertained, in most localities, from the circumstance of the lower beds of the yellow limestone containing characteristic fossils of a light yellow or ochreous colour, especially a large oyster with a very thick shell. The existence, then, of these fossils indicates the presence of the clay below, and as no water can penetrate the clay, a boring or well sunk down to it would certainly supply water copiously.

### 13.—*Mineral Species.*

*Travertine, Tufa, or Calc Sinter.*—Deposits of this nature frequently occur, especially near the coasts. As this substance is rather porous, it might be employed in the formation of filters.

*Calcspar*, beautifully crystallised, is generally diffused in all the calcareous districts. Sometimes the crystals are so highly translucent as to exhibit the phenomena of double refraction, and many masses of stalagmite, of dark-brown, yellow, or reddish colours, are entirely composed of this mineral.

*Gypsum*, or hydrous sulphate of lime, crops out in the vicinity of the limestone. The attempts to utilise this article in the island seem to have been unsuccessful, on account of unskilful treatment. Dr. Ure says it should not be heated over 400° Fah. for the manufacture of plaster of Paris, whereas there is reason to believe parties who have tried to employ it in Jamaica have heated it so highly as to destroy its properties for the above application. This substance is also susceptible of being used as a manure. *Sulphate of Baryta, Natrolite*, and *Alabaster* all occur in veins and strata in Jamaica.

*Quartz.*—The coloured varieties of this mineral are widely disseminated, but veins of pure white quartz are rare. One of the most remarkable instances occurs at Arntully, where a distinct vein or narrow dyke, about eight inches across, is exposed for a distance of four hundred yards. Among other varieties are amethyst, and on the Hollis' Savanna and the Savannas of Vere, many specimens, distinguished by a variety of colour, such as jaspers and agates, are derived from the disintegration of the conglomerates, in which they were

included as pebbles on the destruction of the eruptive rocks. A large jaspidean bed (quartzite or hornstone) also occurs below the upper coffee-piece at Arntully, and veins of the same are seen on the road to the mines of the Clarendon Mountains. Hector's River is a noted locality for jaspers, which are also associated with white carnelian and quartz pebbles of very large size, sometimes ten inches in diameter. Petrosilex, for making cameos, is found in streams flowing into the Rio Pedro in St. Andrew.

#### 14.—*Metallic Minerals.*

*Gold* was found associated with some of the oxydized copper ores of the Clarendon mines, as stated in the reports of assays made in England. The surveyors "found it impossible to prosecute any mineral or geological researches, as the workings were long abandoned, and the vicinity completely grown over by bush." The yield is said to have amounted to fifteen ounces per ton—a very large yield indeed—and the correctness of the assertion may perhaps be corroborated from the traditions of the Indians, and of the Spaniards later on having obtained gold here, and from their having named an adjacent elevation "The Gold Mine." Copper, lead, iron, and other metals exist, but all attempts at mining operations have failed to be sufficiently remunerative.

The copper minerals at Job's Hill are principally grey ores, and rich in metal. It is said about eighty tons of this mineral were soon obtained, but the expectations of the company not being realized after spending £20,000 (exclusive of the purchase of the freehold), the enterprise was abandoned at the end of six or seven months.

It is to be regretted that, in place of importing an expensive staff, and incurring many unnecessary expenses, a portion of this large sum was not devoted to careful and complete exploration, so as to determine thoroughly the mineral character of the rock. In the opinion of experts, this deposit is not of the permanent nature attaching to regular lodes; and if mining operations are resumed, inexpensive preliminary explorations should be first instituted, and prosecuted with great caution.

About £13,000 is understood to have been expended on the mining operations at Sue River. In the utilisation of the metallic minerals of Jamaica, many serious expenses must be incurred; such as the importation of skilled labour; the erecting and maintaining complicated machinery, indispensable in this branch of industry; the transport of the minerals on inefficient roads from the interior to the coast; and the freights to those distant localities where the metal is smelted and prepared for the arts.

Under these circumstances very rich mines only will be remunerative, and such is the result of experience in Cuba, Brazil, and other tropical countries where mining enterprise has been successfully introduced.

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## CHAPTER X.—MOUNTAIN RANGES.

The surface of the island is extremely mountainous, and attains considerable altitudes, particularly in the eastern part, where the central range is known as the Blue Mountains.

A great diversity of climate is therefore obtainable. From a tropical temperature of  $80^{\circ}$  to  $86^{\circ}$  at the sea coast, the thermometer falls to  $45^{\circ}$  and  $50^{\circ}$  on the top of the highest mountains, and with a dryness of atmosphere that renders the climate of the mountains of Jamaica particularly delightful, and suitable to the most delicate constitutions.

The midland parts of the island are of course the highest. Through the county of Surrey, and partly through Middlesex, there runs the great central chain, which trends generally in an east and west direction, the highest part of which is the Blue Mountain Peak, attaining an elevation of 7,360 feet.

From this range subordinate ridges or spurs run north and south; these are connected with other smaller ridges, which branch off in various directions, until the whole surface of the country is cut up into a series of ridges, with intervening springs or gulleys.

Many of these subordinate ridges vie with the main ridge in importance and elevation; such, for instance, as the great

ridge starting from Catherine's Peak, above Newcastle, and passing through the parish of St. Andrew in a south-easterly direction, culminating at great elevations at Newton and Bellevue, and expending itself at Albion, in the parish of St. Thomas. Also the ridge known as Queenborough Ridge, starting from the Blue Mountain Peak, passing by Arntully, Belle Clair, and Windsor Castle, where it is known as Coward's Ridge, and extending to the sea at Belvidere and Creighton Hall, to the north of which place it forms the conspicuous mountain known as Yallah's Hill, 2,348 feet high.

On the northern side of the island three great ridges may be mentioned : one extending from the Blue Mountain Peak, through the parish of Portland, dividing the waters of the Rio Grande from those of the Swift River, and expending itself at St. Margaret's and Hope Bays; another starting from Silver Hill, dividing the waters of the Buff Bay and Spanish rivers ; and the other very high ridge extending from Fox's Gap, at the boundary of St. Mary and Portland, north-easterly, culminating in a conspicuous elevation called Hay Cock Hill, 2,500 feet above the sea, and terminating on the coast near Dover.

The John Crow Range, which runs in a north-westerly and south-easterly direction, in the parishes of Portland and St. Thomas, divides the Rio Grande Valley from the eastern coast of the island. This is more a plateau, of about 2,000 feet elevation, than a mountain range. In its higher parts it is a barren, waterless tract of limestone formation ; much of it covered by the sharp rocks known as honey-combed rocks, over which it is almost impossible to walk. The John Crow Hills may be said to be an offshoot from the great central range, which, from the depression known as the Cuna Cuna Gap, north of the town of Bath, turns suddenly to the north, and forms itself into this plateau.

The central range suffers a considerable depression at Stony Hill, in the parish of St. Andrew, where the main road to the north side crosses it at an elevation of 1,360 feet. Here the range is divided into two ridges ; one, of limestone formation,

extending westerly through the district known as Mammee Hill, reaches a conspicuous elevation at Highgate, in St. Catherine, and extends itself at Bog Walk ; the other, which is a continuation of the central dividing ridge, is of granitic formation, and extends in a north-westerly direction. It passes the district of Lawrence Tavern and Mount Charles, where it commences to form the boundary line between the parishes of St. Mary on the north and St. Catherine on the south side ; continuing north-westerly it passes Pear Tree Grove, and turns suddenly to the south-west at Windsor Castle and Decoy ; and it then joins the limestone formation at Guy's Hill and Middlesex township, continuing as a well-defined range to Mount Diablo, where the main road crosses it at an elevation of 1,800 feet. It continues on to Holly Mount ; a little beyond which it unites with the St. John's Range, which forms the eastern boundary of Luidas Valley.

From this point—although these mountains continue as a separate range—they become irregular and broken, chiefly on account of their limestone character ; and with this formation they extend through the parish of St. Ann, expending themselves in the Cockpit Country to the east of the district called the “Black Grounds,” in the parish of Trelawny. To the south of this locality, along the borders of Clarendon and Manchester, the trappean series is again met with, and two great inland rivers flow there. Running in an irregular north-westerly line, almost parallel with the last range of mountains described, is another limestone range, which may be said to commence from the western bank of the Rio Minho, or Dry River, above Lime Savanna, and forming first the range known as Mocho Mountains ; it includes the Whitney Valley, and joins the Manchester Mountain range at Cumberland.

Thence trending north-westerly, it passes through the northern district of Manchester, and enters the parish of St. Elizabeth at Hector's River Sink ; thence it continues on to Accompong Town, and becomes lost in a peculiarly wild formation of what is usually known as Cockpit Land. In this quarter, and extending for a considerable distance into the



parishes of Trelawny and St. James, the Cockpit Land bids defiance to the traveller. This formation is of white limestone, sharp, irregular, and jagged, with little earth, and formed into a series of circular arenas, like inverted cones with extremely irregular sides, but preserving the circular formation throughout, and terminating in most instances with a sink hole at the bottom.

These arenas are of all diameters, from half a chain to two and three chains. The ridges or edges where these cones unite are of course very irregular and sharp, presenting very steep or vertical rocks of considerable height. Such a country may be said to be inaccessible.

The May Day and Carpenter's Mountains pass through the parish of Manchester in a diagonal direction. Commencing at the Round Hill in Vere, at the south-east extremity of Manchester, they traverse the parish to its north-western angle, where they join the main ridge near the Hector's River Sink; one offshoot forming the Nassau Mountains of St. Elizabeth.

The Santa Cruz Mountains, in the parish of St. Elizabeth, run parallel with the Manchester Mountains. They commence at the sea, at the precipice called the "Lover's Leap," and terminate near Lacovia, where the passage of the Black River produces a break in the hills. These mountains, as well as those of Manchester, are considered generally very salubrious.

Another range of mountains, a continuation of the same line as the Santa Cruz Mountains, commences above Lacovia to the north, and extends to Mulgrave, near the line of St. James, and traverses the parish of St. James in a northerly direction, terminating in the hills south of Montego Bay. The last and most westerly range of mountains, extending through Westmoreland and Hanover, commences about the locality called "Middle Quarters," and extends northerly, with some irregularities, to Chesterfield, at the head of the Great River, which forms the boundary between St. James and Westmoreland; it then trends north-westerly to Chester Castle and Knockalva, near the boundary of the parishes

of Westmoreland and Hanover, and then westerly, culminating in a conspicuous hill called "Dolphin Head," with an elevation of 1,816 feet, and terminating in several small ridges towards the west end of the island.

There is also a coast-line in Westmoreland called "The Bluefields or Surinam range," commencing at Middle Quarters in St. Elizabeth, and extending towards Savanna-la-Mar.

## CHAPTER XI.—ELEVATIONS.

The following are a few of the elevations, above the sea, of the principal mountains and passes through them, commencing from the eastern end of the island, most of which are taken from *Sawkins's Geology of Jamaica*:—

<i>Names.</i>					<i>Elevation in feet.</i>
John Crow Range, average...	...	...	...	...	2,100
Cuna Cuna Pass ... ..	...	...	...	...	2,698
Blue Mountain, Western Peak ... ..	...	...	...	...	7,360
Portland Gap ... ..	...	...	...	...	5,549
Sir John's Peak (highest point of Cinchona Plantation) ... ..	...	...	...	...	6,100
Belle Vue, Cinchona Plantation ... ..	...	...	...	...	5,017
Arntully Gap ... ..	...	...	...	...	2,754
Hagley Gap ... ..	...	...	...	...	1,959
Morce's Gap ... ..	...	...	...	...	4,945
Content Gap ... ..	...	...	...	...	3,251
Newcastle Hospital ... ..	...	...	...	...	3,800
Flamstead ... ..	...	...	...	...	3,663
Belle Vue (Dr. Stephens') ... ..	...	...	...	...	3,784
Silver Hill Gap ... ..	...	...	...	...	3,513
Catherine's Peak ... ..	...	...	...	...	5,036
Cold Spring Gap ... ..	...	...	...	...	4,523
Hardware Gap ... ..	...	...	...	...	4,079
Fox's Gap ... ..	...	...	...	...	3,967
Stony Hill (where main road crosses it) ... ..	...	...	...	...	1,360
Guy's Hill ... ..	...	...	...	...	2,100

<i>Names.</i>					<i>Elevation in feet.</i>
Mount Diablo, highest point	...	...	...	...	2,300
" " where road crosses	...	...	...	...	1,800
Bull Head	...	...	...	...	2,885
Mandeville	...	...	...	...	2,131
Accompong Town	...	...	...	...	1,409
Dolphin Head	...	...	...	...	1,816

## CHAPTER XII.—RIVERS AND GENERAL DESCRIPTION.

The numerous rivers and springs which abound along the coast in most parts of the island, to a considerable extent justify the name of "The Land of Springs," although there are extensive districts in the midland and western parts of the island singularly barren of water.

When it is remembered that the chief range of mountains, or back-bone of the island, runs generally east and west, it will be easily understood that the chief rivers, starting from the northern and southern slopes of this range, would generally have a north and south direction ; that is, those streams rising on the northern side of the great ridge flow northerly to the north side, while those which emanate from the southern slopes run southerly to the south side.

There are some exceptions to this general rule, the chief of which is the Plantain Garden River, in the parish of St. Thomas, which, rising in the Cuna Cuna Mountains, runs southerly in its upper course ; but, suddenly meeting the coast range of hills, turns easterly, and flowing through the fertile district to which it gives its name, empties itself at Holland Bay. Another is the Montego River, which, although it flows northerly in its upper course, turns westerly through the greater part of its flow, discharging at Montego Bay.

There are interior rivers (which have no outlet) which are also exceptions to the general rule, such as the Cave and Hector's rivers. While most of the rivers have generally

northerly and southerly directions, it must not be forgotten that the subordinate ridges, which are nearly at right angles to these lines, will produce subordinate streams, meeting the rivers on their eastern and western banks.

In consequence of the great elevation from which most of the rivers flow, they are very rapid in their descent, and in times of flood become formidable torrents, sweeping everything before them, and operating as dangerous obstructions to the traveller.

Some of the chief of these are the Plantain Garden River, already mentioned, and the Morant and Yallahs, in the parish of St. Thomas. The Rio Grande, in the parish of Portland, is one of the finest rivers in the island,—it flows from the northern slopes of the Blue Mountains. The Back and Stony rivers, two of its great affluents, furnish not only some of the loftiest and most picturesque waterfalls, but the wildest and most romantic country in the island.

It was on one of these naturally fortified ridges, nearly surrounded by the Stony River, that the notorious Nanny, the renowned Maroon leader, held out against the regular troops about the year 1739.

All the upper part of the parish of Portland remains unsettled to the present time, in consequence of the steepness of the country and the want of roads, but there is no other part of the island richer in valuable timbers and other natural productions, and possessing greater advantages for the growth of coffee, cocoa, and cinchona, than this district. The character of the soil and climate is the same as that of St. Andrew and Port Royal Mountains, where the best coffee is produced, but where the coffee-fields are fast wearing out. As nearly the whole of this land in Portland now belongs to the Government, a fair field is open to persons desirous of cultivating coffee, as it is the only good coffee-land remaining in forest in the island.

The upper districts of this region, too cold for coffee, and formerly considered valueless, have been demonstrated by the Government to produce the finest cinchona. The success of

this Government undertaking will doubtless considerably increase the value of these lands, and there is no doubt that they will soon be much sought after for the cultivation of this valuable product. The other rivers of Portland are the Swift, Spanish, and Buff Bay rivers, all possessing the same character as the Rio Grande.

In St. Andrew we have the Agua Alta (corrupted to Wag Water) River, which, rising in the mountains back of Stony Hill, runs through the parishes of St. Andrew and St. Mary, debouching at Annotto Bay. The Hope River rises in the hills around Newcastle, and joins the sea at the sixth milestone from Kingston on the windward road: from this river the city of Kingston is supplied with water. From the "Above Rocks" district of St. Andrew flow the sources of the Rio Pedro, a large tributary of the Rio Cobre, which, with its numerous affluents, traverses the parish of St. Catherine. The gorge, known as Bog Walk, through which the Rio Cobre flows, is remarkable for its wild and picturesque scenery. This river is utilised for irrigating the plains of St. Catherine, and very fine works for the purpose have been constructed by the Government.

The rivers of St. Mary, besides the Wag Water, are the Dry River, the Annotto, the Port Maria, Ora Cabessa, Rio Nuevo, and the White River, which latter forms the boundary between the parishes of St. Mary and St. Ann. The volume of water in the White River is considerable, and the great cascade above Industry and the Falls at Prospect are very grand, and form objects of attraction to visitors.

The parish of St. Ann, being chiefly of limestone formation, furnishes no rivers of any consequence in the interior. The sea coast rivers are numerous: the Roaring River and the Landoverly River possess large volumes of water.

The cascades on both these rivers are very beautiful, particularly those of Roaring River, where the main road crosses it. In the yellow limestone and granite formation at Guy's Hill, the great river flows and sinks at Middlesex Township; rising again at Rio Hoe it forms the beautiful

lakes of Tadmore and Walton, the former covering over 100 acres, while the latter is nearly 340 acres in area. Sometimes, however, these lakes run off down the numerous sink holes which exist there, and which must now be either closed with debris, or the subterraneous reservoirs must be full to overflowing. The Cave and Hector's rivers rise near the junction of the parishes of Clarendon and Manchester with St. Ann and Trelawny, and, running in opposite directions, form the northern and southern boundaries of these parishes respectively.

The Cave River flows easterly, sinking at Greenock Estate ; thence it is supposed to have a subterranean course of  $13\frac{1}{2}$  miles or more, and rising near Dornock Pen with considerable volume, is called Rio Bueno, and, with a course of  $6\frac{1}{2}$  miles to the sea, forms the boundary between St. Ann and Trelawny. The Hector's River runs westerly, and after a course of about 12 miles, terminates in several sinks, in a wild and broken country. This river again makes its appearance at Oxford, in Manchester, where it goes by the name of One Eye River, and again sinking there, it passes through a ridge to the north of Bogue Hill, and rises in considerable body at Mexico and Island Estates, from which points to the sea it is called the Black River. ~ This is certainly the finest river in the island. With a tortuous course of about 44 miles, it debouches at Black River Bay, near the town of that name. This river is navigable for boats of considerable size for a distance of about 25 miles, and is used for conveying the produce of a large district to the sea.

The Black River receives several tributaries of considerable size, which are also partially navigable, such as the Y. S., Broad, Grass, and Horse Savanna rivers.

The Rio Minho or Dry River rises with numerous tributaries in the Clarendon Mountains, and flowing through the entire length of the parish of Clarendon and district of Vere, discharges near Carlisle Bay. In consequence of the arenaceous character of the soil, the water of this river sinks a little below Longville Estate, 16 miles from the sea. The lower part of this river, say from Seven Plantation Estates to a little above

the Alley in Vere, is therefore usually dry, except a considerable spring at Parnassus Estate, where the water flows for a short distance ; the water appearing a little above the Alley, flows to the sea.

In floods the Rio Minho is a most formidable river, and formerly, when "down"—as the expression is—all communication along the south side of the island was cut off ; but a few years ago the Government erected a very fine iron bridge across the river at May Pen, which has answered all its expectations. The Cockpit and Salt rivers are short but deep rivers. The Milk River is also a very fine river, and is navigable for some miles up. A considerable quantity of logwood is shipped from this river. Along the foot of the Manchester Mountains considerable water rises, and with short channels flows to the sea. The largest of these rivers are the Alligator Hole, Swift, and Gut rivers.

Trelawny only furnishes one river of importance : this is the Martha Brae River. This river rises at Windsor, in the interior of the parish, and seems to be the waters of the Quashie and Mouth rivers, which are interior rivers that rise and sink in the Black Grounds. The Martha Brae is a fine river, navigable for some distance up, and discharges to the east of Falmouth. The Montego River rises in the trap formation near Maroon Town, and is there called Tangle River. It sinks and reappears, and after receiving numerous tributaries, enters the sea south of the town of Montego Bay.

The Great River is the boundary of St. James next to Hanover and Westmoreland. It is a long river, but has few tributaries, the Lamb's and Seven rivers being the chief.

The rivers of Hanover are the Flint, Maggoty, Lucea (east and west), Lance's, Davis' Cove, Pell and Green Island rivers ; none of these are large rivers, or demand any special notice.

In Westmoreland the chief river is the Cabaritta. This is also a very fine river, and with its tributaries, the Thicket, and Morgan's rivers, waters the alluvial districts of the parish. There are also the Dean's Valley or Sweet rivers, Savanna and Negril rivers.

## CHAPTER XIII.—CAVERNS.

The limestone formation, so prevalent in Jamaica, furnishes many caverns and sink holes of great size and grandeur, the chief of which is the beautiful cave at the place called Cave Hall Pen, two miles east of Dry Harbour, near the main road. This cave is of great length, and has two branches; the various apartments are designated grottoes, halls, domes, and galleries; and the stalactites and stalagmites, formed by the dripping of calcareous water, glittering in the torchlight, impart a magical effect to the scene. The Grand Cave at River Head, in St. Thomas-in-the-Vale, is a very remarkable place. The Rio Cobre, after sinking at Worthy Park, emerges from this cave. It is of great dimensions, and in former years was a favourite resort for pic-nics; it is traversible, with the assistance of a raft to cross some deep water, for a distance of over a quarter of a mile, until the "flood-gate" is reached, where the water gushes from the rock. The cave at Mexico, in St. Elizabeth, is probably the longest in the island; it is nearly a mile from the One Eye Gulf to Mexico Gulf (the mouth of the cave). The One Eye or Black River passes through this cave. It has been explored for some distance in, but in consequence of some deep bodies of water obstructing the passage, less is known of it than of the Rio Cobre Cave. A thorough exploration of this cave would be most interesting.

The Pern Cave, also in St. Elizabeth, is very beautiful, and the stalactites and stalagmites here show to great effect. There is also a very fine cave at Mount Plenty, in St. Ann, which can be traversed for a distance of ten chains; it has two branches, and the vaulted chambers are particularly fine. At some distance from the mouth it is illuminated by a sink hole from the top.

Another very fine cave is that from which the Mouth River flows in the Black Grounds of the parish of Trelawny. There is also a remarkable cave near this at Spring Garden. The cave at Portland, in Vere, is very fine, and used formerly to be a great place for pic-nics. There are numerous other caves



of smaller dimensions throughout the island. Sink holes, as already stated, are also very numerous. The "Light Hole" at Tingley's, in St. Ann, is a sink hole on a large scale. This is a great arena of vertical rocks, some three or four chains in diameter, and of considerable depth, with large trees growing at the bottom. Many of the sink holes and caves throughout the island have springs at the bottom, such as the Governor's Cave at Healthshire; a sink hole near Fort Clarence, opposite Port Royal; a cave near Salt River; one at Swansea, in Luidas Vale, &c.

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#### CHAPTER XIV.—MINERAL SPRINGS.

There are many mineral springs in Jamaica, most of them possessing valuable qualities for the cure of various diseases and infirmities of the body. Two of these are particularly famed, namely, the hot sulphurous spring at Bath, and the warm salt spring at Milk River.

There are public institutions maintained at both these springs, for the benefit of those unfortunately requiring relief. The spring at Bath, in the parish of St. Thomas, is the hottest in the island, the temperature at the fountain head is 126° to 128° F., but the water loses about 9 degrees of heat in its transit to the baths.

These waters are sulphuric, and contain a large proportion of hydro-sulphate of lime; they are not purgative, and are beneficial in gout, rheumatism, gravelly complaints, cutaneous affections, and fevers. Some new buildings have lately been erected for the accommodation of visitors, and the management is creditable. It is remarkable that a cold spring flows from the same hill-side, near the hot spring, so that cold and hot water are delivered alongside of each other at the bath. The bath at Milk River, in the district of Vere, is one of the most remarkable in the world. It is a warm, saline, purgative bath; the temperature is 92° F. It is particularly efficacious in the cure of gout, rheumatism, paralysis, and neuralgia; also in cases of disordered liver and spleen.

Some wonderful results are on record, and it is believed that if the beneficial effects of these waters were more generally known in Europe and America, a large number of sufferers would be attracted to them. The buildings are extensive, they have lately been repaired and improved, and comfortable and moderate accommodation can now be obtained by visitors.

The Spa Spring, or Jamaica Spa, as it is called, at Silver Hill, in St. Andrew, was formerly maintained as a government institution, and extensive buildings once existed there; but they have long gone to decay, and the spring neglected. These waters are chalybeate, aerated, cold, tonic; beneficial in most cases of debility, particularly after fever, in dropsy and stomach complaints.

Another similar spring, but not so strong a chalybeate, exists at St. Faith, in the district of St. John.

There is also a remarkable spring at Moffat, on the White River, a tributary of the Negro River, in Blue Mountain Valley. These waters are sulphuric, cold and purgative, useful in itch and all cutaneous diseases. A similar spring exists near the source of the Cabaritta River, in Hanover.

The spring at Windsor, near St. Ann's Bay, was lately brought into considerable prominence in consequence of some remarkable cures effected by its use. People from all parts of the island visited it, and the water was carried away to great distances. It is still a favourite among the peasantry, and it is said to possess wonderful powers in healing ulcers, &c.

There are warm springs at Garbrand Hall, on the east branch of the Morant River, and on the Adam's River, near the Blue Mountain Ridge, in the parish of St. Thomas. The well-known spring at New Brighton, in St. Catherine, is the favourite bath of the inhabitants of Spanish Town. A mineral spring also occurs on the sea edge at Manatee Bay, also in St. Catherine.

Another, possessing some qualities of importance, is to be found at Golden Vale, in Portland; and there are salt springs near the Ferry on the Kingston and Spanish Town road, and

at Salt River, in Vere ; and in many other localities salt-water springs are found, and some impregnated with soda or other alkalies.

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## CHAPTER XV.—DESCRIPTION OF PARISHES.

### 1. KINGSTON.

Having already stated the boundaries of the parish, we shall describe the principal towns.

Kingston is the capital of the island of Jamaica, and is the largest and most important commercial town in the British West Indies. It covers, with its adjacent villages, an area of about 1,080 acres, and is beautifully situated on regularly sloping ground, on the northern shore of the harbour bearing its name.

The streets at right angles to the sea were originally laid out north and south ; those parallel to the general run of the shoreline, east and west ; but in consequence of the variation of the compass, the streets running north and south now have a bearing of north  $2^{\circ}$  east, and the east and west streets bear north-west and south-east  $88^{\circ}$  ; it will therefore be seen that these streets are at right angles with each other.

The land on which Kingston stands has a general slope to the sea of about 90 feet per mile, or about one in  $58\frac{1}{2}$  feet, and must originally have had a uniform smooth surface ; but in consequence of former neglect, in permitting flood waters to flow down the north and south streets, they are now so worn as to be much below the general level ; the uniform surface has therefore been destroyed.

In consequence of this depression of the north and south streets, the east and west streets now furnish an irregular section at their intersections. King Street, running north and south, was originally the centre of the town, and laid out at 66 feet wide ; Queen Street, also 66 feet wide, was the centre running east and west ; but in consequence of the town having been extended northerly and easterly, these streets do not now form the centres of the town. At the intersection of King

and Queen Streets a plaza or parade ground was reserved, forming a square of ten acres in the centre of the town. This was formerly used as a market-place and parade ground for the troops and militia ; but about twelve years ago the central portion was enclosed, and converted by the Government into a garden and arboretum, which has added much to the appearance of the town, and to the comfort and amusement of the inhabitants. A military band plays there once a week.

The soil is a gravel bed, formed by the detritus of centuries, produced by the Hope River and other smaller streams from the Liguanea Mountains. It may here be mentioned that the ancient course of the Hope River—which now discharges at the back of Long Mountain, six miles to the east of Kingston—is distinctly traceable through Papine and Mona, and near the Hope Road, and down to the sea about a mile and a half to the east of Kingston.

On account of the gravelly nature of the soil on which Kingston stands, surplus water rapidly sinks and finds its way to the sea. It therefore has little opportunity for creating malaria ; and, consequently, Kingston is one of the healthiest seaport towns in the West Indies.

The drainage for flood waters is by no means as perfect as it might be, although of late years it has been improved by a conduit, leading these waters along North Street to the westward of the city, and another along Queen Street and through the Parade Gardens, delivering them beyond the Railway Station at the sea.

Kingston was originally supplied with water by wells, most of which, in consequence of the gravelly nature of the soil, had to reach the sea level before water was obtained. About the year 1848 a private company brought down the water from the Hope River, for the supply of the city. A few years ago the Government purchased the entire plant from the company, and have very much improved the supply, not only by building reservoirs and filter beds, and furnishing a larger quantity, but by extending the supply to districts formerly destitute of water. The pressure in the lower part of the town is sufficient,

in cases of fire, to throw the water to the top of the highest houses. Kingston must therefore be said to be well supplied with water.

The site of Kingston was not the first chosen by the English for the commercial capital of the island. Port Royal flourished as such until 1692, in which year occurred the great earthquake which destroyed that place, and caused the death of 3,000 of its inhabitants. That dealt it a fearful blow.

Many people remained there, but most of the survivors removed to the lower part of Liguanea, in St. Andrew, then the property of Sir William Beeston, afterwards Lieutenant-Governor of the island. They procured for their settlement the status of a town, a plan for which was drawn up by a Colonel Christian Lilly, under the direction of the Government, the name selected being "Kingston." There was not at first much progress in its settlement, the recollection of the former wealth and greatness of Port Royal giving the colonists a continued preference for that place; but the fire of 1703 completely destroyed the favourite town, and the disheartened inhabitants went in large numbers to Kingston, which the assembly caused to be divided into lots, and given to those who had lost their houses. A law was also passed directing the slave-owners in the parish of St. Andrew to send one out of every twenty of their slaves to build temporary huts for the refugees; and as an encouragement for the early settlement of the new town, every house built within the year (1703) was exempted from taxes for seven years. Soon after this another law was passed, declaring Kingston to be "the chief seat of trade and head port of entry" of the island.

From this time the prosperity of the town was assured, and in the year 1713 it was declared by law that the place should "for ever be taken and esteemed as an entire and distinct parish, with all the powers of any other parish;" and, further, that it "should have the right of sending three representatives to the Assembly." So rapidly had the town grown, that in 1716 it was thus described by an historian of the time :—

“Within the harbour, and about six miles from the town of Port Royal, lies the town of Kingston, first laid out and partially settled after the great earthquake. On the fire of Port Royal, in the year 1703, thither resorted the most considerable traders, and trading sort of people; and it is now become greatly increased in houses, stores, wharves, and other conveniences for trade and business, so that it is by much the largest town in the island: and if the island shall increase in people and new settlements (the consequences of trade and riches) it is likely to be much the fairest town in all the Indies, for 'tis most commodiously laid out, happily and beautifully situated, has many spacious houses in it, (and more are daily building), is the residence of the greatest merchants and traders, and has resorting to it most of the ships or vessels that come to the island, and in it is managed the greatest part of the trade of Jamaica.”

For nearly half a century the town continued to grow in size and opulence, and so important had it become in 1755 that the attempt was then made to constitute it the seat of government.

Governor Knowles twice proposed, and the Assembly twice rejected, a bill for that purpose, but at length the Assembly gave way, and a law was passed giving effect to the arrangement.

Soon after the public archives were removed to Kingston, and the superior courts were established there. But the change was unpopular throughout the island, and numerous petitions against it were sent to the king. On the 3rd October, 1758, the disallowance of the law was proclaimed, and the records were returned to Spanish Town, escorted by a “considerable body of military.”

In 1780 the town was severely stricken by a great fire, which broke out at about two o'clock in the morning of the 16th May, and continued until the following evening. The large and closely-built portion of the town lying between King and Orange Streets was burnt down, the destruction of property being estimated at £30,000.

But the town soon recovered from the effect of the conflagration, and prospered to such an extent that in 1802 it was granted a corporation, under the style of "the Mayor, Aldermen, and Common Council of the city and parish of Kingston." The Court of Common Council was given a seal, and empowered to make and ordain bye-laws, ordinances, and regulations for the good order of the city, not repugnant to prerogative, nor to the laws of the island. The following is a description of the city seal. On one side, the island arms, crest supporters, and mottoes:—Legend, *Sigil: Commune Civit: Kingston in Jamaica*. Reverse, Britannia, in the dress of Minerva, holding the trident in one hand, and in the other a mirror, reflecting the rays of the benign influence of heaven on the produce of the island; behind her the British lion supporting her shield, a couch-shell at her feet, and at a distance a ship under sail—Legend, *Hos fovet, hos curat, servatque Britannia Mater*. In 1843 another great fire devastated a large portion of the city; it began shortly before ten A.M. on the 26th of August, in a foundry situated at the east end of Harbour Street, and extended diagonally across the city until it reached the old Roman Catholic Chapel at the corner of Duke Street. Many of the best dwellings and much valuable effects were consumed, and a large number of persons were left in utter destitution. The sum of £10,149 16s. 2d. was distributed among the sufferers, of which £5,000 was voted by the House of Assembly. At this period a great deal of the foreign trade of Kingston had disappeared, in consequence of the establishing of direct steam communication between the European and Spanish American States; still Kingston continued an important centre of commerce.

In March 1862 another great fire occurred, by which the commercial division of the city was devastated. Nineteen of the principal fancy and other stores in Harbour and Port Royal Streets, three wharves, and the extensive and well-built three-storied house in which the Commercial Hotel was kept, were burnt down, at a loss of £30,100. The value of the merchandize, furniture, &c., destroyed, was estimated at

£60,830, making a total of £90,930. Of this £9,400 was covered by insurances, leaving £81,530 as the total loss to the owners of the premises and stock.

The sum of £499 16s. was distributed, by order of the Executive, to the necessitous sufferers. Three years afterwards representative government was abandoned in Jamaica, and Kingston ceased to be a corporate city. All the powers and immunities of the Common Council were transferred to a nominated Municipal Board, created by Law 8 of 1866, the privilege of making ordinances for the regulation of the city being transferred to the Governor in Privy Council.

For many years it had become evident that the convenience of the Government and of the general public would be best served by the transfer of the seat of government from Spanish Town, and in 1872 Sir John Grant, with the approval of the Secretary of State for the Colonies, gave effect to the change.

The chief courts of law had been removed a few years before, as well as the offices of some departments of Government, and the transfer of the Governor's permanent residence, and of the Colonial Secretariat, alone remained to be effected. Room for this department was provided in the spacious premises known as Head-quarter House (late the military headquarters), which was purchased for £5,000 ; and Bishop's Lodge (the former residence of the bishops of Jamaica), situated in the Liguanea Plain, was also purchased for conversion into a Government house. The Legislative Council was thereafter convened in Kingston, and a chamber for its deliberations found in the large hall in the first story of Head-quarter House.

Kingston has now a population of 38,566 souls, inhabiting over 4,350 houses ; a tax roll of £19,919 ; an import trade of £903,871 ; an export trade of £384,819 ; and an inward and outward tonnage of 626,689 tons. The import duties collected at the port during 1880-81 amounted to £180,237 2s. 6d., and the export duties to £3,809 0s. 5d. The rum duties received during the same period were £32,913. The monthly



deposits in the Savings Bank average £8,000. There are three building societies, doing business in the city to the extent of £50,000 per annum, and nineteen fire insurance companies accepting risks all over the island to the amount of a million and a half of pounds per annum. Besides these, a discount society, and ten life assurance companies, and a marine insurance company, are in successful operation in the city. The mortgages held by the Kingston Benefit Building Society, on 28th February 1881, amounted to £108,301 16s. 7d. The city is lighted with gas, and the principal thoroughfares are traversed by street cars. A remarkably handsome and commodious market adorns the lower end of one of the principal streets. In connection with this structure is a public landing place. Near the pier is a well executed marble statue of Admiral Lord Rodney, removed from Spanish Town, where it was erected in 1782—in memory of his decisive victory over the French fleet commanded by Count de Grasse. The naval hero, in acknowledging the honour done him by the people of Jamaica in erecting this statue, described the island as “the brightest jewel in the British diadem,” a designation of which the inhabitants are still justly proud. In the upper part of the same street (King Street), and immediately opposite to the principal entrance of the Public Gardens, is the statue of another illustrious man, Sir Charles Metcalf, which, as the inscription on the plinth announces, was erected “by the grateful inhabitants of Jamaica, in commemoration of the benefits derived from his wise, just, and beneficial administration of the government of the island.”

On the eastern side of the Parade (or Garden) stands another full length marble statue, that of the Honourable Edward Jordon, C.B., “who, through a long series of years, and in times of danger, fearlessly stood forward as the champion of emancipation, and for the removal of civil disabilities.” This memorial was, as the inscription states, erected “by public subscription, in humble acknowledgment of the important services rendered to his country” by the deceased,

who, "honoured by his Sovereign, and beloved by the people, will ever be remembered as one of Jamaica's most distinguished sons."

The statue of another distinguished Jamaican, Doctor Lewis Q. Bowerbank, was erected in 1881, on the northern side of the Garden. The inscription on the memorial is as follows :—  
"This statue was erected by his numerous friends and admirers, in memory of him, in his private character, as a Christian gentleman ; in his professional, as a distinguished physician and sanitary reformer ; and in his public, as a custos whose administration is a tradition and a model. Born in Jamaica, 1814."

Among the principal buildings of the city are the Theatre, Lunatic Asylum, Public Hospital, General Penitentiary, Mico Institution, the Town Hall, and the Institute. A substantial permanent iron Grand Stand has recently been erected on the racecourse. The many places of worship are creditable and commodious structures, the finest in architectural appearance being Coke Chapel, on the Parade, and St. Michael's Church, near Rae Town.

The old Parish Church, now being enlarged and renovated, is dear to the inhabitants of Kingston, not alone for its comparative antiquity, but because of the historic memories with which it is associated.

Within its walls "Old Benbow," "a true pattern of English courage," finds a last resting-place, having died in Kingston, as the inscription on his tomb shows, "of a wound in his legge received in an engagement with Monsieur du Casse, November 4th, 1702." We must not omit to mention the Gas-works, at the west end of the town, solid buildings, creditable to any European town. The Supreme Court of Judicature occupies the old court-house in Harbour Street ; and the City, District, and Petty Sessions Courts are held in the former Military Barracks, on the western side of the Public Garden ; there, too, are the extensive offices of the Director of Roads and Surveyor-General, and the offices of the Protector of Immigrants, the Inspector of Schools, and the Inspector of Prisons.

The Medical Department is located in East Street ; the Registrar-General's office and the Government Printing Establishment are in the upper part of Duke Street ; the Treasury, Audit-office and Savings Bank, and the General Post-office, in the lower part of Harbour Street, the Telegraph headquarters being in Port Royal Street. The head office of the Internal Revenue Department, and the Customs of Kingston, with the bonding and rum warehouses, lie at the west end of the city : and the railway station, with its commodious wharf and stores, is in close proximity thereto. It is contemplated, at an early date, to erect at the north end of the Public Garden, where the theatre now stands, suitable Government offices, on a plan architecturally worthy of the important metropolis of Jamaica. Among the social institutions of the city may be mentioned the "Jamaica Club," located in Hanover Street, and several cricket clubs, Masonic, Forester, and Good Templar fraternities.

The private residences in the upper part of the city are well built, and as a rule surrounded by trimly-kept gardens ; for this class of houses rents vary, but range between £50 and £100 a year. The direct taxes amount to 3s. 10d. in the pound.

Lines of steamers touch at Kingston regularly, keeping up communication direct with England, New York, Halifax, and France. A coasting steamer leaves Kingston once in every ten days for the outports. Mail coaches leave the railway terminus at Old Harbour for Mandeville, and the Spanish Town station for St. Ann's Bay, and return three times a week.

The lines of the Jamaica Tramway Company are laid from the foot of King Street to Half-way Tree ; to the top of East Street ; to Paradise Street on the Windward Road ; to the General Penitentiary at Rae Town, and to the Jamaica Railway ; and cars run on the lines at intervals of 20 minutes.

There are several hotels and lodging-houses in the town, the best known and most patronised being the "Jamaica Hotel," kept by Miss Susan Burton, which is a well-ordered establishment. Mrs. Gall's establishment at the sea-side is also well

patronised. In all there are sixteen lodging-houses, and about the same number of taverns.

Several daily and tri-weekly newspapers are published in the city. Postal deliveries take place three times a day, and posts are made up for the home parishes daily, and for the country parishes three times a week.

The markets are plentifully supplied. Butchers' meat is cheap. Fruit, vegetables, and fish are abundant, at reasonable rates. There are many fine stores, well supplied with articles of all kinds, and the ruling prices are moderate.

The climate is dry. The thermometer reaches as high as 94° in the hot months, and as low as 66° in the cool months.

PORT ROYAL—situate at the extreme end of a narrow neck of land, facing the entire front of the harbour of Kingston, and acting as a natural breakwater—is, as it were, the entrance gate to that harbour. Port Royal was, prior to the great earthquake, “the finest town in the West Indies, and at that time the richest spot in the universe.” It was the headquarters of the buccaneers, and as such, the emporium and mart of their ill-gotten wealth.

The present Naval Hospital, which is a very fine building, is built of iron and stone, and is 380 feet long, and 57½ feet broad. It can accommodate about 130 patients in the upper portion, and the ground floor, which is available for use in the event of any emergency arriving, will accommodate about half as many more, so that the hospital can find room for 200 patients in all.

A yellow-fever hospital has lately been added by Dr. Thomas Colan, the late deputy inspector-general, in which yellow-fever cases can be isolated and treated, and the necessity of the main hospital being put in quarantine is thus obviated. This arrangement has worked very satisfactorily.

The naval-yard, or dock-yard as it is commonly called, contains the official residence of the Commodore and his staff. The dock-yard is equipped with a well-found machine shop, where steam-engines and the machinery of war-ships are

almost constantly being repaired. If, however, a large ship requires to be docked for an examination of the bottom, it becomes necessary to resort to Bermuda, where a floating dock of immense size is available to the fleet.

Port Royal has always been considered important as a naval station. As recently as the American war and the French occupation of Mexico, the fleet on the North American and West India station numbered some 25 ships, a goodly portion of which were constantly calling into Port Royal to coal, to obtain fresh provisions, and to refit, and the Archduke Maximilian, on his way to Mexico, was met there by eleven ships of war.

The importance of Port Royal as a naval station is likely to increase on the completion of the Canal connecting the Atlantic with the Pacific Ocean. The town suffered severely in the hurricane of the 18th August 1880, and very many of the houses, then wholly or partially destroyed, remain in a condition of dilapidation. The place is generally reputed to be healthy, although, as a matter of history, epidemics of cholera, small-pox, and yellow fever have occurred there. At one time Port Royal laid claim to be regarded as a sanatorium or marine resort, but owing to the want of house accommodation, and other causes, the people of Kingston do not now resort to it for change of air.

The population of Port Royal, according to the census of 1881, was 6,608.

## 2. ST. ANDREW.

This parish offers many advantages to the agriculturist; its soil is fertile, and in the interior the seasons are, as a rule, favourable; its proximity to Kingston, the chief mart of the island, is greatly in its favour; and traffic is rendered comparatively easy, owing to the state of preservation in which the roads are kept. In some parts, chiefly in what are known as the St. Joseph's and Port Royal districts, owing to the hilly nature of the country, only bridle paths exist, along which it is practicable only for pack-beasts to be used for the

conveyance of merchandise. The St. James's and St. Christopher's districts are intersected by the Kingston and Annotto Bay Junction road, a very great benefit to the occupants of the surrounding lands ; and the latter district, as well as that of Liguanea, is traversed in several directions by roads which are available for vehicles.

Half-way Tree is a wide-spread village, without the concentration entitling it to be called a town. It is situated about three miles from Kingston, and the cars of the Jamaica Street Tramway Company run between the two places every twenty minutes. The village is a very thriving one, fast rising into importance.

The Parish Church, which will repay a visit, has lately been enlarged and renovated at considerable cost, and is esteemed a handsome structure. To those curious in such matters the memorial slabs and the stones in the church, and churchyard attached to the church, will prove interesting. They tell of many naval and military heroes, and men in the first ranks of civil life. There is a splendid monument inside the church to Sir Nicholas Lawes, once Lieutenant-Governor of the island, and a benefactor to the parish. A more recent Lieutenant-Governor, Mr. E. E. Rushworth, C.M.G., is also commemorated in the churchyard.

A market—a neat structure of iron and wood—was opened on the 1st of August 1881, and promises to be in time a great accommodation, both to the neighbouring families and the peasantry. Many local improvements, indicative of the interest taken in the labouring classes by their wealthier neighbours, have been initiated of late. By the liberality and active interest of Lady Musgrave and Miss Newton, the niece of the Lieutenant-Governor, a soup and coffee-room has been built, which it is hoped will have a good, moral, and social influence on the peasantry. This institution is now open, and in full operation.

A sleeping room for the use and accommodation of market-women will also be built shortly, making provision for a class of persons who, from the nature of their avocation, are subjected to great privation, exposure, and demoralization.

A village library and reading room (supplied gratuitously with suitable illustrated papers and magazines) will shortly be opened, with the small subscription of a penny per week.

Among the principal buildings on the Liguanea Plain, which is dotted all over with the residences of the gentry, is King's House, the official residence of the Governor of Jamaica, which was formerly the "Bishop's Lodge," the residence of the bishops of the diocese. Nine miles from Kingston to the north-east, by way of the "Cross Roads," the old Hope Toll-bar, and the Hope Road—leaving to the left the experimental Government plantation, and the head works and reservoirs of the Kingston and Liguanea Water-works, at Hope—lies the growing village of Gordon Town, where there are a post-office, a constabulary station, and a court-house.

At the foot of the hill leading to Newcastle is a picket house in connection with the cantonment at Newcastle.

An omnibus runs between Gordon Town and Kingston every Monday, Wednesday, and Saturday, leaving Bolton's livery stables at Gordon Town at 8.30 A.M., and Mr. John Macdonald's store in Kingston, on the return journey, at 4 P.M. The charge is 4s. each trip, or 6s. for the "return ticket."

The military cantonment at Newcastle, on one of the spurs of the Blue Mountain range, is the station of the white troops, consisting generally of a wing of a regiment, and part of a battery of artillery. It is situated 3,974 feet above the sea, amid charming scenery, and in a very healthy climate. At about the same elevation, on another spur of the same range of hills, is situated "Flamstead," which has been purchased by Governor Musgrave as a mountain residence in the hotter months of the year.

Up-Park Camp Barracks, about  $1\frac{1}{2}$  miles north of Kingston, contain the headquarters of a West India Regiment and the brigade office. The situation of this place is admittedly healthy, and a constant sea-breeze blowing over it makes the hottest days endurable. There is a splendid view of the harbour to be obtained from these barracks, which consist of two long

parallel lines of buildings, two stories high. There is an excellent hospital for the troops, and a splendid swimming bath of running water. The quarters of the Field Officers are separate buildings, each standing by itself, in its own compound. The former military barracks at Stony Hill, about 10 miles from Kingston, on the main road leading towards Annotto Bay, are now used for the purposes of a reformatory, where some 300 boys and girls were detained. The girls are now removed to a separate establishment near Kingston.

The productions of this parish are rum, sugar, and coffee; the latter brings a high price (especially the high-hill coffee) in the home markets. Bananas are now being cultivated to a large extent; and some attention is being bestowed on the culture of oranges, cocoa, and grapes, of which latter several plants have been recently imported, and are being grown under the care of an Italian, on one of the coffee plantations in the high mountains. The Government cinchona plantations are an acknowledged success, the bark produced there having sold recently in England at a higher rate than most others of the kind. Many proprietors of lands in the higher elevations of the parish are now entering upon the cultivation of cinchona. The Liguanea Plain is celebrated for its pine apples; it is said nothing can equal the flavour of a "Ripley" grown here, and the cultivation of this fruit is being largely extended. The population of this parish by the census of 1881 is 34,982: 17,251 males, and 17,731 females.

### 3. ST. THOMAS.

Travelling eastward from Kingston, we pass the quarry at Rock Fort, and through the gateway—which is one of the few remains of the strongholds of our forefathers—we enter the parish of St. Thomas.

After leaving Rock Fort, the first place of any importance reached is Yallahs Bay, where there are an Episcopal Church (built in the 17th century), a Wesleyan and a Baptist Chapel. There are two great salt-ponds in the vicinity which supply an abundance of fine fish, and are a source of livelihood to the



villagers. Albion Estate, about one mile west of Yallahs Bay, is one of the finest sugar estates in the island, being supplied with an excellent system of irrigation. Easington, in the interior, hard by the bank of the Yallahs, was the parish station of St. David before it was merged into the parish of St. Thomas.

There is a fine suspension bridge over the Yallahs River, near Easington. St. Thomas is one of the oldest parishes in the island. It was settled by the Spaniards, and was thus described by Venables—"Morante is a large and beautiful *hato*, being four leagues in length, consisting of many small savannas, and has wild cattle and hogs in very great plenty, and ends at the Mine, which is at the cape or point of Morante itself, by which, towards the north, is the port of Antonio."

The parish of St. Thomas, which embraces the old parish of St. David, is endowed by nature with a greater variety of soil and climate than most of the other parishes. The chief products are sugar, rum, coffee, logwood, tobacco, cocoa-nuts, bananas, nutmegs, and chocolate. The Blue Mountain Peak lifts its lofty head in this parish fully 7,360 feet above the sea.

It was on an estate in this parish, belonging to Colonel Bach, named "Garbrand Hall"—settled by Lieutenant Hookes Garbrand, of Cromwell's army—that John Coad, "the God-fearing carpenter," was sold into slavery for being concerned in the Monmouth rebellion. He and his companions, 77 in all, were, according to Macaulay, such skeletons on their arrival in Jamaica, that "the merchants to whom they had been consigned found it expedient to fatten them before selling them." This poor Coad established a small church amongst the slaves.

Morant Bay, the chief town and shipping port, is one of the oldest of the Jamaica townships, and is noted as being the chief scene of the disturbances of 1865, which resulted in the abolition of the old constitution, and the establishment of the present form of government.

The fine Episcopalian Church in this town was levelled to the ground by the cyclone of August 18th, 1880. The old

church had some beautiful monuments, nearly all of which are now buried under rubbish in the chancel. Among the most interesting of these tablets were those to the memory of Lieutenant Marmaduke Freeman, of Belvedere, who died in 1709, in the reign of Queen Anne ; of the Honorable Anthony Swymmer, who died in 1729 ; and of the wife of Governor William Henry Lytelton. The inscription on the latter stone is as follows :—“*H. S. S. Reliquiæ Mariæ Lytelton, Gulielmi Henrici Lytelton Hujus Insulæ Prefecti. Uxoris Dilectissimæ, A.D. 1765.*”

The Wesleyan and Baptist chapels were also destroyed by the cyclone. There are a public general hospital, an almshouse, a police station, a telegraph station, &c., in the town. Seven miles eastward of Morant Bay lies Port Morant, a shipping port of some extent, with a very safe harbour. Mr. Munro (the Munro of “Dickenson & Munro,” the founders of the charity of that name) is buried in the churchyard at Port Morant. Bath is a populous village, having a large number of dwellings, a church, a Wesleyan and a Baptist chapel. The streets are skirted by trees, which give a moisture to the atmosphere. A sulphurous hot mineral spring is situated a little above the village. The original botanic garden of the island is in the village itself, and is still maintained for the sake of its valuable trees and palms. The tobacco plantations of Messrs. Thompson and Weitzman are at Potosi, a few miles off. Golden Grove is a collection of stores, established on the estate of that name, for the commerce of the Plantain Garden River district. It has a handsome little Episcopal Church, which is supported by the planters of the neighbourhood.

The sugar estates in the Plantain Garden River district present a pretty view when seen from the eminence above them called “Quaw Hill.” From this point to Port Antonio the whole district was once covered by flourishing sugar estates, but is now utilised as grazing pens. There are now 15 large sugar estates in cultivation in the parish, which produced last crop 2,324 hogsheads of sugar, and 1,411 puncheons of rum. One of the oldest of these is Belvedere, the original proprietor

of which (Robert Freeman) was the first Speaker of the first House of Assembly. President Cuthbert is buried on this estate.

In addition to the Dry River and the Falls River, there are two important rivers in St. Thomas, namely, the Yallahs and Morant Bay rivers, which, when swollen by heavy rains, become formidable torrents, and are quite uncrossable. It is hoped, however, that the time is not far distant when substantial bridges will be erected over these rivers. The Morant Point Lighthouse stands at the extreme east end of the island in this parish. The population of St. Thomas by the census of 1881 is 33,945; 16,819 males, and 17,736 females.

#### 4. PORTLAND.

This parish, which is at the north-east end of the island, includes the old parish of St. George and part of St. Thomas, from which it was originally taken in 1723.

It extends from the sea coast to the highest peak of the Blue Mountains range, and is celebrated for its fertility and the beauty of its scenery. The chief town is Port Antonio, which contains 1,305 inhabitants, and has the two finest and securest harbours in the island, sheltered by a small islet called Navy Island. Vessels of large tonnage can lie alongside the wharves in the western harbour.

Port Antonio is divided into Upper and Lower Titchfield. Upper Titchfield is a peninsula, containing the old military barracks and Fort George, now proposed to be converted into a school under the Titchfield Trust, an alms-house, and the residences of the gentry. Lower Titchfield, or Port Antonio proper, extends along the sea shore, where the stores, wharves, court-house, gaol, &c., are built. The Episcopal Church stands conspicuous at the east end of the town, and is a structure of good size and some architectural beauty. By a proclamation issued by the Governor in 1880, fairs for the sale of stock are appointed to be held in the chief street of the town of Port Antonio on the first Tuesday in Easter week, the first Tuesday after the 1st August, and the first Tuesday after Christmas day.

The fruit trade, which was started in this parish in the year 1868, has made Port Antonio a town of some importance. There are now no less than nine steamers regularly carrying fruit from Port Antonio to different ports in the United States. The fruit exports from Port Antonio received a severe check from the effects of the destructive hurricane of August 18th, 1880. In fact, for six months at least the trade may be said to have been at a stand-still; but the people were not discouraged, and fruit planting has been carried on since the hurricane on a much larger scale than ever before.

Notwithstanding this fact, the demand for fruit for the American market is still far in excess of the supply, the lovers of the succulent banana—like poor Oliver—still “asking for more.”

The prices obtained for bananas during the season 1880-81 ranged from £10 to £12 10s., and sometimes as high as £13, per hundred bunches. This state of affairs has naturally given rise to several new and important fruit-planting enterprises.

Golden Vale, a thrown-up sugar estate of some 5,000 acres in extent, and the Bogue of 1,700 acres, have been purchased by parties in America (represented here by Captain Baker) expressly for the cultivation of bananas and cocoa-nuts; and lying inland between these two estates is Spring Bank, the property of Mr. J. Revie MacNab, the principal part of which is devoted to banana growing. The peasantry are extending their cultivation on every hand, and there can be little doubt that a great future is in store for the fruit trade of this district of Portland.

The Maroon Town—called Moore Town—is nine miles from Port Antonio, on the banks of the Rio Grande, which is the second largest river in the island.

St. Margaret's Bay is a little fishing village on the west of the Rio Grande; it contains a substantial Episcopal Church, and carries on an extensive business in fruit. Hope Bay is further west, but on the east of the Swift River.

This little town contains about 500 inhabitants, with an Episcopal Church, a Wesleyan chapel, and a constabulary station.

Buff Bay was the chief town of the old parish of St. George ; it lies between the Spanish River and the Buff Bay River. This town contains a fine Episcopal Church, a Wesleyan chapel, a Baptist chapel, a court-house, an alms-house, a constabulary station, a telegraph station, &c.

It is the chief shipping port of the district of St. George. About two miles out of the town, on one side of the Buff Bay River, lies a township of the Maroons called Charles Town, and on the other side of the river is the Government Model School, partly supported by Merrick's charity.

Manchioneal lies on the north-eastern coast of the island. It is becoming of some importance since the fruit trade has been established. It has a little harbour which could be made safe for vessels visiting the port. The town holds an Episcopal Church, a Wesleyan chapel, a court-house, &c. Its principal exports are bananas and cocoa-nuts. The grazing properties of the pens in the neighbourhood, in fact all along the north-eastern coast, are not much utilised. Sheep would thrive well on them.

Darlingford, an extensive cocoa-nut plantation belonging to the heirs of the late Sir Charles Darling, Governor of Jamaica, stands around the village of Manchioneal.

There is at Low Layton the remains of an extinct volcano, 750 feet above sea-level. The Rio Grande, Buff Bay, Spanish, and Swift rivers in this parish, present formidable obstacles to the traveller during the rainy seasons, when they assume the form of foaming torrents, and are quite uncrossable. When the steps contemplated by "the St. Thomas and Portland Bridges Loan Law" (Law 7 of 1881) have been taken, these obstacles will be removed by the bridging of these rivers, and travelling will become safe and easy throughout the parish. Portland is rich in minerals. Its principal products are coffee, chocolate, bananas, cocoa-nuts, and edible roots of all kinds. The population, according to the census of 1881, is 28,901—14,294 males, and 14,607 females.

## 5. ST. CATHERINE.

St. Jago de la Vega, or Spanish Town, the old capital of the island, and the chief town of the parish, is connected with Kingston, from which it is twelve miles distant, by a line of railway. It lies on the banks of the Rio Cobre, six miles distant from the sea at Passage Fort and Port Henderson (favourite sea-side resorts), and contained, by the last census, 5,689 inhabitants. The town is laid out with streets at right angles, and, after the Spanish-American manner, there is a square in its centre. In this square stands the former King's House, a very handsome structure, and imposing buildings, formerly used as Legislative Chambers, the Supreme Courts of Justice, &c. These are now converted, for the most part, to the purposes of a training college and master's residences; the upper portion of the old court-house is, however, partly devoted to the use of the people as a Town Hall. A stage for theatrical representations, neatly fitted up, occupies one end of it.

The Record Office (formerly called the Island Secretary's Office) is still located at the north-eastern side of the square. The two large brass guns captured by Rodney from Comte de Grasse, remain "en garde" before the empty temple which once held the statue of the victorious British admiral.

The old vice-regal Palace, the scene of so much grandeur in the olden time, will always present an object of interest to visitors, while next to it in this respect is the Cathedral Church dedicated to St. Katherine. It was formerly the Spanish Red Cross Church of St. Peter, and was the only church in the town spared by the Puritans, who used it as a place of worship. Many former governors and their wives, and most of the more eminent of the early settlers of the colony, are interred within the church or in the neighbouring churchyard.

Jamaica has always been liberal in posthumous honours to her governors, and many fine monuments attest the fact.

We may briefly mention those to the memory of the Earl of Effingham and his Countess, Sir Basil Keith, Major-General Selwyn, and the Countess of Elgin. It may not be generally

known that the base of this monument is formed of a piece of one of the "Elgin Marbles," which was presented by the family.

The foundations of the old Spanish White Cross Church, and of the convent attached to it, may still be traced in the streets named after it, and those of the last Spanish governor's house still remain. Local tradition points out in the grounds of the infant school the Tamarind Tree, beneath which Colonels Tyson and Raymond were shot for mutiny. The "Eagle House," once surrounded by a moat, lies to the south of the town; it was the residence of the Earl of Inchiquin when governor of Jamaica, but it has passed through many vicissitudes since then, and is now almost in ruins.

The present town is quite shorn of its former grandeur and importance; but its municipal institutions are very creditably conducted, and the inhabitants are fairly prosperous.

The constabulary find a training depôt in the old military barracks.

The old Middlesex Gaol is now used as a gaol for that county and the county of Surrey. New markets were opened on the 19th November, 1880, by the Governor, Sir Anthony Musgrave, who named them "The Princes," after the young sons of the Prince of Wales, who shortly before visited the island.

Besides the Cathedral there are a chapel-of-ease (dedicated to the Trinity), a Roman Catholic, one Wesleyan, and two Baptist chapels. The Training College, to which we have alluded, receives pupils to be trained as schoolmasters; and in connection with it there are an elementary school and a middle grade school, supported to some extent by the amalgamated funds of Smith and Beckford's Charity.

A reading room exists in the town; it is well supplied with current literature, and is in affiliation with the Colonial Institute. A chess club, with a large membership, is also there. The old racecourse, so long allowed to remain in ruin, has been cleared, and the annual meet is now an established success. The town is amply supplied with pure water from the Rio Cobre; the streets are cleanly kept; house rents are

moderate, and the parochial rate of 1s. 9d. in the pound on rentals is the only one levied. The markets are well supplied with butcher's meat, poultry, fish, game, fruit, and vegetables. The climate is dry, the days are not so hot as in Kingston, and the early mornings and nights are delightfully cool.

The town and neighbourhood are very healthy. There are many grazing pens in the vicinity, remuneratively managed as sheep and cattle farms, and the Salt Pond district is justly celebrated for the flavour of its mutton. In this district (whence its name) there is a large salt pond, from which the delicious fish called "calapiva" is taken in large numbers, and from which the inhabitants of the parish were formerly supplied, at a nominal price, with salt to the extent of 5,000 bushels a year.

The Rio Cobre Canal, which irrigates the St. Catherine plain, has proved a boon to the inhabitants, and rendered profitable the cultivation of bananas, and other fruits and cereals. This cultivation has sprung up of late years on land that had not been utilised within the memory of man, affording a good investment for capital, and remunerative employment for labour. The canal also irrigates the two fine sugar estates, Ewing's and Dawkin's Caymanas, lying about five miles from Spanish Town, on the road to Kingston.

OLD HARBOUR.—The traveller by railway from Kingston, *via* Spanish Town, will get out at the terminus at Old Harbour Market, as it is called, to distinguish it from "the Bay," which is nearly three miles to the south. This district is of historic note.

The Bay was once a flourishing port under the Spaniards, who named it after their governor, "Esquivel," but it has now dwindled down to a fishing village.

It has, however, an Episcopal Church, a Baptist chapel, a custom-house, &c., and is the shipping port of the district. It possesses a fine, commodious harbour, studded with little low cays or rocky islets, breaking the waste of water with



their refreshing greenness. "This noble Bay, when Columbus discovered it, was inhabited by thousands of Indians, the most intelligent and the most civilised of all the aborigines of the Antilles that he had seen. On the largest of these islets, embosomed in the sheltered, lake-like harbour, dwelt the noble-minded Cacique, who proposed to leave his country, and to visit, in the protection of the illustrious world-finder, the distant land of the wondrous strangers, of which he had heard such great reports."—(*Gosse.*)

The market is a thriving and busy little town, with a fine court-house in the centre of it. There are several large places of business, a public market that is always abundantly supplied with meat, fish, vegetables, &c., a pretty little church, recently erected by the Ludford Charity, a Wesleyan chapel, &c. The old Parish Church stands about a mile from the town; it was built by the first English settlers, and there is a slab in the aisle which tells that the deceased came to the island with Penn and Venables. Large quantities of coffee and sugar are produced on the mountains of this district.

The banana and orange trade is taking its stand side by side with the old staple products, and will soon extend to large proportions.

The orange, especially those from the Red Hills, are superior in flavour and mellowness to most of those seen in the American markets.

**ST. THOMAS-IN-THE-VALE.**—Leaving Spanish Town by the road which leads to the head works of the Irrigation Canal, we pass into that lovely gorge popularly known as the Bog Walk, and on to the town of Linstead. The Bog Walk is one of the finest sights in the island. "A torrent gushing in misty depth, and fighting its downward course among scattered rocks; the narrowness of the long ravine or den through which it rushes, and the steepness and loftiness of the precipices on either side, with the richness and variety of tropical vegetation, growing in all the exuberance of its foliage, on every spot where a plant can rest—these features unite in imparting to

the scene all the imposing effect of blending beauty and grandeur.”—(*Dr. King's Jamaica.*) Linstead is situated in the centre of an almost circular hollow, shut in by mountains. The approach to it from Mount Diablo is very beautiful. The parish church lies outside the town, on the south side, while the Baptist chapel at Jericho lies on the north side. The court-house, Wesleyan chapel, &c., are in the town. Linstead is a thriving place, and is rising daily in importance : considerable business is transacted by the shopkeepers there, a large quantity of produce being brought for sale by the small settlers from the neighbouring mountains.

The projected railway extension to this town will more fully develop the great resources of the surrounding country, and will render Linstead one of the richest and most important trading centres in Jamaica.

In the meantime, the connection with the mail-coach running between Kingston and St. Ann's Bay must prove of great utility and convenience. The chief products of the district are sugar, coffee, cocoa, ginger, bananas, and oranges.

## 6. ST. MARY.

This parish, which now includes the late parish of Metcalfe, is a very important one, containing 39,696 inhabitants. The chief town and shipping port is Port Maria, or, as the Spaniards called it, Puerto Sancta Maria.

The town of Port Maria contains a church, a kirk, a Baptist chapel, a court-house, prison, &c. There are a few fine stores and wharves.

Another town of the parish is Annotto Bay, situated at the mouth of the Wag Water River (a corruption of Agualta.) Annotto Bay is approached from Kingston, a distance of 30 miles, by what is known as the New Junction Road. This town is divided by three rivers running through it. It is a shipping port, and contains a fine large church at the eastern entrance, or upper town, as well as an hospital ; and in the lower town stand the court-house, Baptist chapel, Wesleyan chapel, &c. On account of the rivers, which create swamps in the

neighbourhood at certain seasons of the year, the town becomes unhealthy, but the inhabitants, on the whole, generally enjoy tolerably fair health.

In the interior of the district is a Maroon township called Scott's Hall.

The chief rivers of the parish are the Wag Water, White River, Annotto River, and Rio Nuevo. Exactly 19 miles on the junction road from Kingston to Annotto Bay, and near the left bank of the Wag Water, is the botanical garden at Castleton, which travellers should always call to see. In addition to Port Maria and Annotto Bay, the shipping ports are Oracabessa and Rio Nuevo Bay, of which the former is fast rising into importance, in view of the quantity of bananas and other fruits shipped there. It was near Rio Nuevo Bay that the last Spanish governor built a fort, of which he held possession when driven from St. Jago de la Vega by Penn and Venables.

Sugar, rum, coffee, pimento, and bananas are the chief exports of the parish.

#### 7. CLARENDON.

This parish is rich in mineral resources, and abounds with rivers and streams at every turn. The main drain of the parish is the Rio Minho, or, as it is called in the lowlands, the "Dry River," over which, at May Penn, is one of the finest bridges in the island, erected during Sir John Peter Grant's administration. In the dry season the water sinks into the earth ; but in rainy seasons it flows with formidable power.

The most considerable town is Chapelton, with a population of 654 inhabitants, although, by an Act of the Legislature, the court and public offices are held at May Penn, in the lowlands, which is merely a collection of Government buildings. Chapelton is situated in the interior of the parish, and is, commercially speaking, in a thriving condition. In it are the parish church, a London missionary chapel, kirk, court-house, constabulary station, public general hospital, and many fine large stores. A brisk trade in produce is carried on in this town.

Four Paths is a village in the plains not far from May Penn, on the road from Mandeville, and near the line of the railway now in contemplation. There is here a chapel belonging to the London Missionary Society. The Alley, which was once the capital of Vere (a parish since incorporated with Clarendon) is a small town by the banks of the Rio Minho. It contains a venerable church, a court-house, &c. The proximity of sugar estates to this town renders it of some importance.

Carlisle Bay and Milk River are the shipping ports of this parish. The Milk River baths, situate near the township of that name, are warm springs that are very beneficial in chronic rheumatism and other similar diseases. It was at Carlisle Bay that the colonial militia met the French, under Du Casse, and, after three days' gallant resistance, drove them to their ships with a loss of 700 men.

The invaders had already, for nearly a month, plundered and destroyed the sea-side plantations, and murdered and kidnapped the gentry and their slaves. Bridges states that "this was the most formidable attack which was ever made upon the shores of Jamaica."

This parish has been benefited to a very great extent by the recent opening up of a main road from Chapelton to Cave Valley Estate, in the parish of St. Ann, by which a saving of over 30 miles is afforded in travelling between the Dry Harbour mountain district of St. Anne, and the south-western part of the island. The Milk River, which has always been navigable for small droghers and for lighters, to convey produce, &c., from the wharves three or four miles up the stream, to the ships which anchor out to sea about two miles from the mouth of the river, has recently become choked up by the action of the sea, and at present the boats from the wharves have to discharge their freight on the beach, which freight has then to be transferred to other boats in the sea to be taken to the ships. So long as this hindrance to the easy carriage of goods from the wharves to the ships continues, the progress of the rising village of the "Rest," in the im-

mediate neighbourhood of these wharves, will be materially retarded ; and great inconvenience must result to the estates in that part of the parish, and to the small settlers in the south of the parish of Manchester, who have hitherto made use of this port for shipping their produce. The chief productions of this parish are sugar, rum, and coffee ; logwood, fustic, and other woods ; and a special feature in it is the number of small sugar mills owned by the peasantry. These numbered 989 in 1880 ; (of these, 162 by manual pressure, 1 by water power, and 826 by horse power.)

Attention has been also directed to the cultivation of bananas and cocoa. Cinchona would do well on the hills, in the upper part of Clarendon.

A very fine tobacco plantation exists at Morgan's Valley, near Chapelton, once the property of Sir Henry Morgan, who settled it, and called it after his own name ; and the article is being extensively planted by Cubans in other parts of the parish.

#### 8. ST. ANN.

Passing from the village of Linstead, in St. Catherine, through Ewarton, the contemplated terminus of one branch of the railway extensions, and over Mount Diablo, the beautiful parish of St. Ann is entered.

St. Ann is bounded on the west by the Rio Bueno River, which separates it from Trelawny ; on the north by the sea, and on the south by the parishes of Clarendon and St. Catherine. The area is about 464 square miles ; the population (by the census of 1881) is 46,584.

The land rises on a gradual ascent from the coast, assuming a more or less hilly surface as it advances inland ; the hills are of limestone formation, and caverns, some of which are very extensive, occur in several places. "Earth has nothing more lovely than the pastures and pimento groves of St. Ann ;—nothing more enchanting than its hills and vales, delicious in verdure, and redolent with the fragrance of spices. Embellished with wood and water from the deep forest from whence the

streams descend to the ocean in falls, the blue haze of the air blends and harmonises all into beauty.”—(*Hill's Lights and Shadows of Jamaica History.*)

The climate is salubrious, the roads are good, and the peasantry are well conducted, and compare favourably in this and other respects with those of any part of the island.

There are six Episcopalian churches, ten Wesleyan Methodist chapels, nine Baptist, two Presbyterian, one Independent, and one Roman Catholic chapel in the parish. A mail-coach commenced to run on the 31st October 1881, between Kingston and St. Ann's Bay, calling at Linstead, Ewarton, Moneague, and Claremont. This coach carries five passengers and parcels. The through fare between Kingston and St. Ann's Bay is 25s. ; and the rate for parcels, which are not to exceed 10 lbs., is 3d. a pound.

The first township reached is the Moneague, which contains a few stores and an inn. In the vicinity a large fresh water lake has recently formed, and is well worthy the notice of sightseers. A little beyond Moneague is Walton, where the Jamaica High School, now removed to St. Andrew, used to be kept. The grazing pens of the parish, especially in this district, are as fine as are to be seen in any part of the world.

The racing stock is celebrated for speed and endurance. The cattle, for weight and quality of meat, are much sought after in the island markets.

St. Ann's Bay is the chief town, and is one of importance. Not more than a mile from this town is the site of the first capital of the island, “Sevilla Nueva,” or “Seville d'Oro,” as it was afterwards called. It was, history tells us, a place of some opulence and magnificence. Among the other costly edifices were a monastery, a cathedral—the pavement of which extended to a distance of two miles—a theatre, and many palaces and other noble buildings.

But Seville did not long continue the capital, having been abandoned for St. Jago de la Vega. Some say that this was owing to “the Spanish inhabitants of Seville having, in their wars with the natives, been suddenly and entirely cut off;”

and others assign the desertion to "a visitation of innumerable ants, that destroyed all their provision grounds," and compelled them to find a new home elsewhere. Bridges, however, attributes the abandonment to the depredations of the French filibusters, and states that "the northern coast of Jamaica afforded frequent spoils to this bold band of corsairs."

Much business is done in St. Ann's Bay ; there are several fine stores and wharves, a pretty Episcopalian church, a Wesleyan chapel, court-house, post-office, telegraph station, &c., &c.

To the eastward of St. Ann's Bay, at Drax Hall Estate, there is a narrow cove, described on our maps as Don Christopher's Cove, where Columbus is supposed to have stranded his sinking vessels,—but this is incorrect. Ferdinand, Columbus's son and companion on the voyage, records that on "Midsummer eve the water gained on us, and came up almost to our decks. With infinite labour we held on till day, when we put into a harbour on the north side of Jamaica, called Puerto Bueno (Dry Harbour), which, though good to take shelter in against a storm, had no fresh water, nor any Indian town in its neighbourhood. Having made the best shift we could, we removed the next day after the festival of St. John from that harbour to one further eastward, called Santa Gloria, which is enclosed by rocks ; we stranded the vessels close together, board and board, shoring them up on both sides to prevent their falling over." The spot, therefore, is to the westward, and not eastward, of St. Ann's Bay, in front of the place known as the Priory Village.

The pretty little town of Ocho Rios, which contains a church, chapels, &c., lies about seven miles east of St. Ann's Bay ; and the ride along the "river road," as it is called, is one of the most charming in the island. No one who has visited the cascades of the White River and of the Roaring River, with the intermediate waterfalls of Ocho Rios, can forget the scenery. Near this town is Shaw Park Estate, where Don Sasi, the last of the Spanish governors, had pitched his tent when he was found out and pursued by the British troops.

He subsequently escaped in a canoe to Cuba, from a spot about nine miles from St. Ann's Bay, which has since been known as Runaway Bay.

Brown's Town is the largest of the rural townships of St. Ann, and is situated in the western interior part of the parish; it contains an Episcopal church, a Wesleyan chapel, a Baptist chapel, a court-house, &c. It is a thriving place,—a good produce trade is carried on in it.

Dry Harbour is a town worthy of note;—it was there Columbus landed and took formal possession of the island. It has a fine horseshoe-like harbour. The chief products of this parish are sugar and rum, pimento and coffee.

## 9. MANCHESTER.

Mandeville is the chief town of Manchester, and is one of the prettiest little towns in the island. Its situation on the top of a mountain is very picturesque. The tidiness and cleanliness in which the buildings are kept make it evident that the inhabitants know the value of paint and lime-wash. Mandeville contains a church, a Wesleyan chapel, a chapel belonging to the London Missionary Society, a Baptist chapel, a free school, a court-house, a constabulary station, a district prison, and a parochial hospital. The town is supplied with water from public tanks, the parish being dependent on the rainfall for its water supply.

A mail coach now runs between Old Harbour and Mandeville, capable of carrying, besides the mails, three passengers, as well as parcels. It leaves Old Harbour on Monday, Wednesday, and Friday of each week, on arrival of the train which leaves Kingston at 10-30 A.M., and is timed to arrive at Mandeville at 5-45 P.M. It leaves Mandeville for Old Harbour on Tuesdays, Thursdays, and Saturdays at 9-30 A.M., to connect with the train which leaves the latter place at 4 P.M.

Very comfortable accommodation is to be found at Miss Roy's lodgings in the town, as well as at Brook's Hotel, a well conducted establishment.



Porus is a very populous village, where a brisk traffic is carried on; it contains an Episcopal church, a Baptist chapel, and a fine chapel of the London Missionary Society, a constabulary station, &c.

At this town will be the terminal station of one branch of the railway extensions. Building lots are being bought at £25 the quarter acre.

There are other villages in Manchester, such as Newport, Victoria Town, &c., but they are not of much commercial importance. The parish is abundantly supplied with good schools for the peasantry; it has also two Normal Moravian Training Colleges for male and female teachers. Grazing pens are numerous, on which fine cattle and blood horses are largely reared. Coffee and pimento are the chief staples, but ginger is cultivated to some extent. The Manchester orange has obtained a name in the American markets for its size and flavour, and is exported to a considerable extent. *Cinchona succirubra* has been successfully established for several years, by the Rev. Mr. Swaby, at Mount Olivet, in the Mile Gully Mountains, at an elevation of 2,700 feet. There are a few healthy trees of the same variety in cultivation close to Mandeville, at a height of 2,100. These instances would tend to shew that the elevation and climate of the Manchester mountains are favourable to the growth of *cinchona succirubra*. Several gentlemen owning property in the mountains are now entering upon its cultivation. The population of the parish of Manchester, according to the census of last year, was 48,458—23,622 being males, and 24,836 females.

#### 10. ST. ELIZABETH.

This large and important parish comprises 301,440 acres, contains 54,375 inhabitants, and is more diversified by mountains and plains than any other in the island. The largest river in Jamaica runs through its extensive plains for over 44 miles, and is navigable for some 30 miles for boats, which take the produce to the wharves that are built at its

mouth. The town—Black River—takes its name from the river, and stands on the west side of the river, facing the bay. It has a population of 1,279, and, as a shipping port, ranks third after Kingston. The town contains a fine parish church and a Wesleyan chapel, a court-house of some architectural pretensions, a short term prison, a public general hospital, and a market, which is well supplied with poultry, ground provisions, &c.

The bay forms a beautiful crescent, extending from Parotee Point to the eastern horn of Luana Point on the west. The port is called Gravesend.

Towns and villages are interspersed throughout the parish, the chief of which are Lacovia, Santa Cruz, Balaclava, Alverstoke, Newport, &c.

At Balaclava, which is a very flourishing little village, a market is held, which is largely attended. There is a Maroon township in the northern interior of the parish, known as "Accompong."

This parish, from its diversity of soil and climate, produces almost everything tropical. Sugar, rum, coffee, pimento, logwood, ginger, and tobacco are its chief productions. There are some very large and fine grazing pens in St. Elizabeth, and the breed of horses and cattle is much prized.

The Santa Cruz Mountains, which run parallel to the Manchester Mountains, and form a distinctly separate range, extending from north to south, are said to possess the healthiest climate in all Jamaica, the thermometer seldom rising beyond 75° in the hottest months of the year. The southern extremity of this range rises rather abruptly from the sea, with a height of 1,500 feet, until it reaches 3,000 feet. A continual breeze blowing over it night and day renders the climate dry and delightfully cool even in the warmest months. The "Lover's Leap" on these mountains, the cave at Peru, and the falls at Y. S. Estate, are a few of the natural curiosities of the parish. The Boys' Grammar School of "Munro and Dickenson's Charity" is kept at Potsdam, and the Girls' School at Mount Zion.

## 11. TRELAWNY.

The parish of Trelawny is situated on the north-east border of the county of Cornwall, and is one of the best sugar-producing parishes of the island. Many of the sugar estates are still in a high state of cultivation. The area of this parish is  $332\frac{1}{2}$  square miles, with a population of 32,115.

The neat and well laid out town of Falmouth is its capital, with a population of 3,029 ; it is built on a low flat piece of land on the western shore of the Martha Brae harbour. It is a town of much commercial importance ; its main street, called Market Street, is very wide, and would set off many a country town in the mother country. The town contains many fine churches, chapels, and public buildings ; amongst the former the principal are the parish church, kirk, Wesleyan chapel, and a commodious Baptist chapel built by the late William Knibb.

The court-house is a massive building, erected by the sea-side, and contains a fine room, in which hang full length pictures of General Sir John Kean, at one time Lieutenant-Governor of Jamaica, and of Sir Charles Theophilus Metcalfe, one of Jamaica's most popular Governors.

About half a mile to the west of the court-house stand the barracks, and Fort Balcarres, in which the constabulary are at present located ; and about a gun-shot to leeward of the barracks are the marine hospital and the district prison. The town is sometimes hot and unhealthy, but the prevailing sea-breeze renders it generally pleasant to live in.

The streets are always clean and in repair. The town is supplied with water from the Martha Brae River, which is conveyed to a reservoir built in the Market Square, whence the inhabitants are supplied by pipes laid down to their houses, or by carriers employed for the purpose. There is a telegraph station in the town.

Besides the town of Falmouth, there are several others in the parish, of which the chief are Stewart Town, in the interior, five miles west of Brown's Town, in St. Ann ; Rio Bueno, on the sea-coast eastward, on the road to St. Ann's

Bay ; and Duncans, between Rio Bueno and Falmouth. At this latter place (Duncans) a well has recently been dug at considerable expense ; but, unfortunately, the benefits intended to be conferred on the district by this well have not yet been developed. Clark's Town, the Rock, and Salt Marsh, are villages in its immediate neighbourhood.

Stewart Town, with about 200 inhabitants, lies on the grand interior road from Claremont to Falmouth, and is of some importance. It contains a neat Episcopal church, and large Baptist and Wesleyan chapels. A brisk trade is carried on in produce from the interior of this and the neighbouring parishes.

Rio Bueno is an old seaport town, somewhat decayed. It has an Episcopal church and other public buildings. Salt Marsh and the Rock are shipping ports.

Martha Brae, one and a half miles inland, was the site of the old Spanish settlement of Melilla, but it was abandoned almost as soon as built, owing to the depredations of the French filibusters.

Anyone going into this parish should go to see the cave at Spring Garden ; it is a natural curiosity, and will well repay a visit.

Sugar, rum, pimento, coffee, and ginger are produced in the parish. The town of Falmouth depends on Portland and Hanover for its vegetable food supply during the greater part of the year.

## 12. ST. JAMES.

This is one of the smaller parishes of the island. Its extent is  $227\frac{3}{4}$  square miles, equal to an acreage of 145,260 acres. The population, by the census of 1881, was 33,625, as compared with 29,340 in 1871, shewing an increase in population of 4,285 in the 10 years. The chief productions of the parish are sugar, rum, coffee, pimento, and bananas.

There are 28 sugar estates now in cultivation, on which 2,402 hogsheads of sugar, and 1,588 puncheons of rum were produced last year. The number of acres of land under cultivation is as follows :—3,221 in sugar canes, 3,429 in provisions,

217 in coffee, 40 in ginger, and 3,743 in guinea grass ; whilst various kinds of fruit trees, pimento and dye woods, grow in the common pasture lands. There are about 24 large pens for raising cattle, and the live stock on these may be set down at 3,750 cattle and horse-kind, and 500 sheep ; whilst that on the sugar estates is about 3,900 cattle, and 100 horses and mules. The parish is comparatively fortunate as to main roads, having not only the usual coast main road, but also two branches from it—one turning a mile to the south of Montego Bay, and crossing the parish to Trelawny ; the other turning four miles off the coast road from Montego Bay, passing through the interior of the parish, through St. Elizabeth and Manchester, on to Kingston.

Tourists from Kingston may thus conveniently pass through Spanish Town, Linstead, Moneague, and then go either the interior road by Brown's Town, Stewart Town, Clark's Town, on to Falmouth, or keep a direct course through Ocho Rios, St. Ann's Bay, Dry Harbour, Rio Bueno, Duncans, and on to Falmouth, and thence to Montego Bay, returning to Kingston by way of St. Elizabeth and Manchester.

The parochial first-class roads are improving ; they are all well bridged over, but the growing fruit and minor products trades call for an extension of these first-class roads, and an improvement in the minor roads which feed them. A thrown-up sugar estate, about 7,000 acres in extent, the property of the Howard de Walden family, is now, through the energetic action of a member of the family, the Honourable Henry Ellis, being utilised as a pen, and being gradually stocked.

Some splendid Brahmin bulls and cows have been imported from India, which are doing well ; these cattle are said to be better adapted for sugar estate work than any other breed. Shorthorns have also been imported.

This property adjoins another fine grazing pen, named Shuttlewood, belonging to the same family.

Montego Bay, which is the chief town of St. James, is the second town of importance in the island in respect to size, population, and commerce. The population, by the census of

last year was 4,651. The sanitary condition of the town is good. It was much improved last year by the filling up of the swamp adjoining the Creek, which had been a nuisance of long standing.

A new street has been made across the swamp, connecting Church Street and Creek Street. A large and handsome market was opened in the town last year, which affords great accommodation to the inhabitants.

The enterprising firm of Messrs. J. E. Kerr & Co. have given a great impetus to trade generally, by establishing regular communication with the United States by means of their steamers, the "*Pomona*" and the "*Edith Godden*." A building society has recently been established, and the improved appearance of many of the buildings of the town indicates the good work being done by the society. A brisk export cattle trade has also been established, and is being rapidly developed. The regular monthly visits to Montego Bay of the steamers of White's, Anderson's, and Scrutton's lines, and the call of the coasting steamer, are a great convenience and aid to trade.

The increasing fruit trade has not only made valuable a large extent of what was considered almost useless property, but has also given employment to a class of persons who were badly in want of it.

The values of the fruit and cattle exports from Montego Bay during the past year were, respectively, £11,498 17s. 6d. and £6,467, as compared with £1,993 and £2,858 respectively in the previous year. The increase in the case of fruit was caused by the increased demand from the traders to the windward side of the island, where the fruit was very much injured by the cyclone; and in the case of cattle by the large demand from Cuba for breeding and young stock. This latter want has nearly been satisfied, and it is expected that there will be a diminution of the trade in this special direction.

The Courts of Justice are held with regularity, and the people are orderly and well conducted. There are several

lodging houses in Montego Bay, a magazine club, and a bath-house, which unites sea and fresh-water baths. The market is well supplied with meat, fish, and vegetables. Montego Bay was called "Manteca Bay" by the Spaniards, from its being the great emporium for lard. Sir Hans Sloane states that the boiling of swine's flesh into lard constituted the early commerce of the place. The chief buildings in the town are the court-house, parish church, Trinity chapel, Wesleyan chapel, kirk, two Baptist chapels, custom-house, and the old barracks—now the constabulary station. The parish church contains some fine monuments, amongst which is one by Bacon to the memory of Mrs. Palmer, of Rose Hall Estate, of whom tradition has said so much.

### 13. HANOVER.

This parish contains 166 square miles, about as many as the island of Barbados: it extends for 47 miles along the north-western shore of the island, and is separated from the parish of St. James by the Great River.

There are about 54 miles of main roads in the parish, and 220 miles of parochial roads. The population by the last census was 29,567, and the town of Lucea contains 1,702 inhabitants. There are 19 sugar estates in this parish, on which about 1,900 hogsheads of sugar, and 1,080 puncheons of rum were produced last crop; and 40 grazing pens in the parish were stocked on the 1st August, 1881, with 7,557 cattle and horsekind. Among the most valuable and beautiful of these fine cattle farms is Knockalva, a celebrated pen belonging to the Malcolm family. This fine property is between 4,000 and 5,000 acres in extent, and is generally stocked with over 1,000 head of horned cattle, horses, and mules. A traveller who visited the property in 1866 stated, in a work written by him, that "the manager had introduced the Hereford breed, and showed him grass-fed oxen of fine form and enormous size, which would attract admiration and possibly carry off prizes at the great English cattle-shows."

Shuttlewood, Ramble, Haughton Grove, Burnt Ground and Cacoon Castle, are also excellent breeding pens.

The peasantry, who are generally well-to-do, are chiefly engaged in planting ground provisions, with which the markets of the neighbouring parishes of Westmoreland, St. James, and Trelawny, as well as Kingston, are supplied. The Lucea yam enjoys a great reputation. Tobacco, ginger, coffee, arrowroot, and sugar, are also produced by the peasantry in goodly quantities, and special attention is paid to the rearing of pigs.

By the last returns fully 3,000 acres were under cultivation, exclusive of sugar estates and grazing pens ; and 1,450 head of horsekind are returned in the parish, exclusive of those on estates and pens.

The parish is well watered and very mountainous, the highest elevation being the Dolphin Head, some 2,000 feet above the sea level, affording a good land-mark for mariners.

Lucea, the chief town, is very pretty. The harbour is one of the finest in the island ; it is about a mile in length, and varies from about a mile to three-quarters of a mile in width, being in the form of a horse-shoe. One hundred sail or more of merchant ships may lie in the harbour, secure from all winds. The mountains rise abruptly to the south-east of the town.

The principal buildings are the parish church, a handsome court-house, Wesleyan and Baptist chapels, the kirk, Rusea's Free School, &c. Fort Charlotte, which was built for the defence of the harbour, stands on the peninsula that overlooks the channel : it is now the constabulary station.

Hanover contains, besides the town of Lucea, that of Green Island, a shipping port lying to the west, in which are an Episcopal church, a kirk, and a Baptist chapel.

#### 14. WESTMORELAND.

The parish is well watered by numerous rivers and streams, the principal of which are Cabaritta, Roaring River, King's Valley, Spring Garden, Negril, Sweet River, Bluefield, Robins, and Smithfield. The Cabaritta is navigable for boats of about 8 tons for some twelve miles from the mouth.



The area of the parish is 309 square miles ; and the population by the last census 49,035—males, 24,549 ; and females, 24,486.

Savanna-la-Mar, the chief town, with a population of 2,498, is one of the most important towns in the island in regard to the extent of its commerce. Its chief public buildings are the parish church, the Wesleyan and Baptist chapels, the court-house, &c., &c., and Manning's Free School, just outside the town. There are several fine stores at the shore-end of Great George Street. The sad fate of Sav-la-Mar, in the hurricane of 1744, can never be remembered without horror :—

"The sea, bursting its ancient limits, overwhelmed that unhappy town, and swept it to instant destruction, leaving not a vestage of man, beast, or habitation behind. So sudden and comprehensive was the stroke," says Bryan Edwards, "that I think the catastrophe of Sav-la-Mar was even more terrible, in many respects, than that of Port Royal."

Besides Sav-la-Mar there are Bluefield, Parker's Bay, and Scott's Cove, as shipping places and small townships. Bluefields was the site of the Spanish town of Oristan, and was for some time the residence of Gosse the naturalist. The "Spanish road from Bluefields' Bay to Martha Brae, by the head of the Great River," as Long wrote, is still in existence.

The chief productions of this important parish are sugar, rum, logwood, pimento, coffee, ginger, &c. There are 25 sugar estates in Westmoreland, and some very well-kept grazing pens. The stock on the latter are not to be surpassed by any in the island for beauty, size, and pedigree.

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## CHAPTER XVI.—ELEMENTARY EDUCATION, &c.

In addition to what has been already stated, it may be well to give a general idea of the system of Government aid in regard to Elementary Schools instituted in 1867. Standards of school management, carefully defined and graded, are pub-

lished for circulation among the schools. They treat on the following subjects :—

Reading	}	<i>Chief subjects.</i>
Writing from Dictation		
Arithmetic		
Scripture Knowledge	}	<i>Secondary subjects.</i>
General Knowledge		
Grammar and Composition		
Geography and History		
Handwriting		
Singing		
Organization		
Discipline		

These are divided into *six* grades, with corresponding *numbers*—as Little, 1 ; Moderate, 2 ; Fair, 3 ; Good, 4 ; Very Good, 5 ; Excellent, 6. But in the *three* chief subjects the *numbers* or *marks* are doubled.

The schools are ranked in three classes, according to the number of marks annually awarded, thus :—

With 8 marks in each chief subject, and 56 in all—*First class.*

With 6 marks in each chief subject, and 42 in all—*Second class.*

With 4 marks in each chief subject, and 28 in all—*Third class.*

Schools examined for the *first* time, and which may fall short of the lowest standard, may be regarded as *exceptional*, and recommended for aid at half the third class rate, if they obtain 24 marks at least, and have an average attendance of 20 pupils.

Grants are made on CLASS and CAPITATION.

		1st Class.	2nd Class.	3rd Class.	Excep- tional.
Class, per mark	...	8/-.	7/-.	6/-.	3/-.
Average Attendance, per capitation	... ..	6/-.	5/-.	4/-.	2/-.
With 3/- per capitation on the average number of girls attending the sewing class.					

Annual grants are also made to first class schools for the training of one, two, or three pupil teachers, who shall personally pass a satisfactory examination in accordance with the Government regulations relating thereto. The following are the rates per annum :—

To each Pupil Teacher.				To the Teacher for instructing them.		
				For one in the same School.	For two.	For three.
1st year ...	£4	0	0	} £3 0 0 each year.	£4 0 0	£6 0 0
2nd „ ...	5	0	0			
3rd „ ...	6	0	0			

No pupil teachers are retained on the Government list longer than three years. After that period they are supposed to go to the training colleges, or engage in school in work as teachers. The sum of £1,500 is annually distributed for the special purpose of aiding in the repairs and erection of schools, in accordance with definite regulations.

In 1872, the fifth year of operation of the Educational Code, there were 38,006 on the books of Elementary Schools that received grants to the amount of £9,897 ; 2,282 in attendance on Schools not receiving aid ; 237 in three model schools ; 1,704 in the endowed establishments ; and about 3,822 in private seminaries, making a total of 46,051 children attending school ; while there were 82,773 between the ages of 5 and 15 years not attending.

Sir John Peter Grant, in reporting for the last time on education in Jamaica, wrote thus to the Secretary of State :—“It will be seen that still only one-third” [plus] “of the children in the colony are at school. This shows how much remains to be done here in the cause of education ; but I am convinced that the growth of the system of elementary education, since the introduction of the new scheme, has been as rapid as is consistent with healthy growth, such as we now

see. It is not the mere increase of schools, but still more the increase of good schools, for which educationists here deserve praise."

Commenting on the progress of popular education in Jamaica, Mr. J. A. Savage, the late inspector of schools, who devised the scheme, remarked in his annual report for 1879, which was the last submitted by him to the Government:—"That there has been a steadily progressive work going on in our schools of late years cannot be denied, for this fact has been plainly evident to all who have taken the trouble to watch, from year to year, the advancing strides—slow, it may be, but sure—that elementary education has been making throughout the colony, notwithstanding all the hindrances that managers, teachers, and the friends of education have had to contend with. Moreover, the work of the schools is now beginning, unmistakably, to show itself upon society at large, in the increased intelligence that appears among the working classes everywhere, and the ability to read and write, which is so much more common now than it used to be formerly. The fruits of long years of patient toil in the schools are at length becoming manifest, in the better informed young people who are leaving the schools to take their places in the fields, the workshops, and in the formation of new family circles."

Now, in 1882, there are 627 elementary schools on the Government list (with 53,336 children enrolled), in receipt of £16,725, exclusive of grants for buildings. The total number attending all the schools in the colony (from 5 to 15 years old) was 67,402, and the number not attending was 135,365, so that the percentage attending school in 1882 was rather lower than in 1870, being *nearly* one-third the total number.

For twelve years, then, since the Government scheme for promoting the elementary education of the young has been in full operation, only one-third of the children of schoolable age have been brought under instruction; while two-thirds of the number have been growing up in ignorance and insubordination—in idleness and poverty.

If anything more were needed to prove the necessity of a

compulsory scheme of education, it may be remarked that those who attend schools are necessarily withdrawn from domestic services and manual employments. On leaving school they seek higher employments, and failing to find these in Jamaica, they emigrate, or, in endeavouring to live by their wits, find their way into prison. Again, the existing dearth of skilled artizans, labourers, and servants, is also partly owing to the large exodus of grown people to Colon. Even though many of these should return in better circumstances, they will never again labour for the low wages that are paid here. Hence the questions arise—How shall we stem the tide of ignorance, sloth, and self-will which is sweeping downwards two-thirds of the rising race? How shall we secure for them a measure of culture and restraint, and give them a fair start in the world? and how shall we provide to some extent the much needed supply for domestic and predial services?

The only course open to us is to make it compulsory on parents and guardians to send all children, from 5 to 14 years old, to the aided elementary schools, or provide other qualified teachers for them, under penalty of their being taken up as destitute and neglected, and sent to a County Industrial Home, where they shall be taught, fed, clothed, and instructed in gardening, farming, stock rearing, household services, and handicraft employments, and afterwards apprenticed out to families or to tradesmen (for wages) until 20 years old. This, surely, cannot be said to be an unconstitutional measure. In furtherance of this scheme it would be well to make the elementary schools *free*, and impose a school tax from which to augment the pay of teachers. None would have a valid excuse for neglecting to send children to elementary schools, except the plea of inability to clothe, and this would bring them into the class—*destitute*.

The numbers now growing up in ignorance and sloth will prey upon the community, increase pauperism, and fill our prisons. The true education of the mass is that which fits for the duties of every-day life and the industries of the country,

that through these the people may acquire wealth, and rise to higher positions. Technical instruction in elementary industries, with practical illustrations, would lead into channels of prosperity.

Let the payment of fees be abolished in all the elementary schools, and every child from 5 to 14 years old, not attending a certificated school 40 days in a quarter, made subject to an apprenticeship in a County Home, to learn cultivation under improved methods, experience in stock-rearing, dairy products, and the use of tools and machinery. Such a measure would materially counteract the impoverishing process that is going on now, to culminate soon in destitution and ruin.

## CHAPTER XVII.—STATISTICS OF ACREAGE AND POPULATION.

	Sq. Miles	Acres.	Males.	Females.	TOTAL.
<b>SURREY.</b>					
Kingston . . .	7 $\frac{1}{2}$	4,693	15,928	22,638	38,566
St. Andrew . .	169 $\frac{1}{2}$	108,480	17,251	17,731	34,982
St. Thomas . .	280	179,200	16,819	17,126	33,945
Portland . . .	310 $\frac{3}{4}$	198,826	14,294	14,607	28,901
<b>MIDDLESEX.</b>					
St. Catherine .	450	288,000	29,972	31,138	61,110
St. Mary . . .	229	146,560	20,010	19,686	39,696
St. Ann . . .	464	296,960	22,831	23,753	46,584
Clarendon . .	467	298,880	25,180	24,665	49,845
Manchester . .	310	198,400	23,622	28,836	48,458
<b>CORNWALL.</b>					
St. Elizabeth .	471	301,440	26,612	27,763	54,375
Westmoreland .	308 $\frac{1}{2}$	197,440	24,549	24,486	49,035
Hanover . . .	166	106,240	14,518	15,049	29,567
St. James . .	227 $\frac{3}{4}$	145,760	15,815	17,810	33,625
Trelawny . . .	332 $\frac{1}{4}$	212,640	15,556	16,559	32,115
	4,193	2,683,520	282,957	297,847	580,804

Number under 5 years . . . . .	75,653
„ from 5 to 15 years . . . . .	202,767
„ „ 15 to 20 „ . . . . .	58,818
Total 20 years and under	337,238
Over 20 years . . . . .	243,566
Total	580,804
Number from 5 to 15 attending school . . . . .	67,402
„ „ not attending . . . . .	135,365
	202,767

Birth rate in 1881, 36.7 per 1000.

Death rate „ 26.0 „

## CHAPTER XVIII.—METEOROLOGY.

### MEAN RAINFALL IN 1881.

	Inches.
North-Eastern Division . . . . .	86.40
Northern Division . . . . .	56.47
West Central Division . . . . .	74.40
Southern Division . . . . .	49.27
Mean	66.64

It appears that while the May and October rains are everywhere strongly marked, the northern part of the island has winter rains in November, December, and January; the southern part has summer rains in August and September; and each part is further divided by the amount of the rainfall—thus giving four divisions.

The *North-eastern Division* is cut off by a straight line drawn from Port Morant to St. Ann's Bay; it includes the lofty range of the Blue Mountains, and their continuation as the hills of St. Mary; it faces the rain-bringing winds of winter; and it has a large rainfall in November, December, and January, as well as in May and October. This division has the greatest annual rainfall.

The *Northern Division* includes the parishes of St. Ann, Trelawny, and St. James. It is that part of the island which lies to the north of those broken ranges of hills which run through the centre of the island, in a direction more or less parallel to the Blue Mountain range. The annual rainfall is less than in the first division, but it has the same characteristics.

The *West Central Division* stretches from Chapelton to Lucea. It is deprived of the greater part of the winter rains by the two former divisions, whose hills precipitate the abundant vapour in the east-north-easterly winds; but it has well marked summer rains in August and September, as well as the usual rains in May and October. It has a larger annual rainfall than the northern division.

The *Southern Division* has the same characteristics as the *West Central*, but the annual rainfall is much smaller.

In the preface to Sloane's "*Natural History of Jamaica*" we read: "According to the different positions of the places, so are the rains more or less violent, and come at different times; but, generally speaking, the two great rainy seasons are in May and October, in which months, at new or full moon, they begin, and continue day and night for a whole fortnight with great violence, so that the earth in all level places is laid under water for some inches. And these *Seasons*, as they are called, from their being fit to plant in, are generally so over the whole island, though they are much altered in their time and violence of late years, which arises from the clearing of the country of much wood.

"In the month of January is likewise expected a season or rain, but this not so constant nor violent as the other two; and probably may come from the violent *northers* coming over the mountains with part of their rains with them; for in the north side of the island rains in that month are generally very frequent and violent, coming along with great winds, which nevertheless seldom pass the hills or ridge of mountains running through the middle of the island, so that very often the seasons of the one are different from those of the other.



“For all the summer months, or when the sun is near or over their heads, or through almost the whole year, towards noon, it rains on some part of the ridge of mountains running through the island, with thunder and lightning. These rains seldom reach two or three miles into the plains; wherefore, on account of these rains, any valleys lying very near or amongst the mountains have more seasons and are more fertile than the plains further off, which, if they have any rains, is but the outskirts of that in the mountains, and therefore inconsiderable. At other times of the year, sometimes for three or four days together, there may be a shower about 12 to 4 o'clock in the afternoon, which only serves to moisten the surface of the ground without any profit.”

It thus appears that Sloane has alluded to the May and October rains, to the rains on the *north side*, to the summer rains on the central hills, and to the small rainfall on the southern plains. Consequently, the characteristics of the rainfall have not altered for at least two hundred years.

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## CHAPTER XIX.—DEPENDENCIES OF JAMAICA.

THE CAYMANAS OR CAYMAN ISLANDS, so called for their fancied resemblance to the cayman or crocodile floating on the water, are three in number. Cayman Brac (Broken Cayman) lies N.W. of Jamaica, distant 113 miles. Farther west, across a channel of ocean water 7 miles wide, lies Little Cayman; and 60 miles farther towards the south-west is Grand Cayman, bearing W.N.W. from South Negril, distant 180 miles. It is 22 miles long, and 5 miles wide. These islands contain about 4,500 inhabitants. Most of them live at Grand Cayman, in nine villages, neither of which is sufficiently concentrated to be reckoned a town, though two of them are so called.

The islands were at one time the resort of pirates, but soon after the conquest of Jamaica by the English, some of the disbanded soldiers of the Commonwealth settled there, and

engaged in the cutting of logwood. The islands were formally placed under British rule, and Grand Cayman was fortified at several places, and a militia organized. The buccaneers left for America. The foundations of forts and a number of cannon are still to be seen. Magistrates were appointed by the governors of Jamaica, and one popularly known as Governor Bodden presided for several years. There is now on record, in Spanish Town, a patent of 2000 acres of land granted by King Charles II. to Mrs. Mary Bodden, probably the wife of Governor Bodden. Slavery existed in Grand Cayman, as in Jamaica. Among others who introduced slaves, one Mrs. Jarrett removed thither with her slaves from the north side of Jamaica—Trelawny, probably.

The slaves were emancipated in 1834, without having to serve the apprenticeship term. Compensation was awarded, but not for the loss of the apprenticeship. Shipwrecked passengers and sailors, and occasional deserters from ships, elected to remain from time to time, so that most of the people, known by not more than a dozen different surnames, are descended from English, Scotch, and Irish forefathers, with, in some instances, an admixture with the black race. The people are exceedingly industrious, quiet, hospitable, and enterprising. Every man owns his bit of land, and builds a neat substantial cottage, and marries early. The habitations are principally on the sea-shore, and present a picturesque appearance at the distance of five or six miles from the coast. The natives build themselves schooners of from 20 to 90 tons burthen, in which they trade to Jamaica and to various parts of the United States of America, and fish for turtle along the banks of Central America. Accustomed to the sea from childhood, they make exceptionally good seamen, while their intercourse with Americans, and seamen in general, renders them sociable and shrewd. They are singularly united and sympathetic, and the few destitute people that are among them are spontaneously relieved and cared for by the neighbours.

Some years ago they applied for some recognition and governmental provision from Jamaica, and failing to obtain it

they appealed to the British Parliament, when an Act was passed defining their connection with Jamaica, and sanctioning and elected representatives for the levying and expenditure of their practice of passing local regulations by their magistrates, taxes, and the holding of courts for the adjustment of suits, &c. This Act prohibited the trial of cases over a certain value, and questions of life and death, and prescribed appeals to the Supreme Court of Jamaica. The Caymanians especially need some educational aid, and the appointment of a resident superintendent, uninfluenced by party feeling.

THE TURKS AND CAICOS ISLANDS, geographically the most south-eastern of the Bahama group of islands, lie between  $21^{\circ}$  and  $22^{\circ}$  N. lat., and  $71^{\circ}$  and  $72^{\circ} 37''$  W. long. These islands were first discovered by John Ponce de Leon, in 1512, and were settled by emigrants from Bermuda in 1670. After various attempts by the French and Spaniards to obtain possession of them, it was thought necessary in 1766 to appoint some educated person there to protect the rights of the British crown, as the Bermuda emigrants were, to use the words of the Bermuda House of Assembly in a petition to the King, written about that time, "of the meaner sort, and not altogether of sufficient ability to form just and equitable regulations," and, consequently, Andrew Seymour was sent from Nassau in that year as agent. By an order in council, dated 29th June 1781, sundry regulations, framed by Seymour, were approved of for managing the salinas or salt ponds, and for the preservation of order in general amongst the inhabitants.

In 1790, Colonel the Honourable Alexander Murray, second son of the 4th Earl of Dunmore, the Governor of the Bahamas, arrived as the first properly accredited agent of His Majesty; and in 1799, after great opposition from the Bermuda settlers, an act was passed by the Bahama legislature, which, by its consequences, placed the Turks and Caicos Islands under the Bahama Government; and so they remained, notwithstanding frequent protests, until 1848, when, on the petition of 521 inhabitants of the Turks and Caicos Islands to the

House of Assembly of the Bahamas, setting forth the difficulties of communication between Nassau and Turks Islands, a distance of 450 miles, and on account of conflicting interests, Her Majesty was pleased to grant a separate charter to the "Turks Islands, and the islands and cays commonly known as the Caicos Islands, together with all cays situate and lying to the eastward of the said Turks and Caicos Islands," which includes the Silver Cays and Banks, 100 miles to the eastward of Turks Island.

On the 1st January 1874, in consequence of a petition to Her Majesty the Queen from the Legislative Council, dated 17th February 1873, praying for the abrogation of the charter granted in 1848, as it was found too burdensome for the resources of the colony, the Imperial Act 36 Vic., chap. 6, and the order in council of the 4th August 1873, were promulgated, which set forth the terms and conditions on which the Turks and Caicos Islands were annexed to Jamaica as a dependency.

The present Government, in accordance with the above order in council, and Local Ordinance 8 of 1873, is administered by a Commissioner, as chief executive officer, who is president of the Legislative Board, of which the other members are the Judge of the Supreme Court (an *ex officio* member), and not less than two, or more than four, other persons besides.

Total population, 4,732. Employments : storekeeping, salt raking, and cultivating corn, potatoes, &c. Exports : salt chiefly, a little wood, and small quantities of sponge—total value, £25,000 per annum. In 1852 an iron lighthouse, visible 18 miles, was erected, at a cost of £4,000, on the northern end of Grand Turk, to mark the Turks Islands passage, through which about five hundred vessels bound south pass annually. Grand Turk is 7 miles long and  $1\frac{1}{2}$  miles wide. The water supply is derived from tanks. Fresh meat and vegetables are scarce. The islands are healthy.

#### THE MORANT AND PEDRO CAYS.

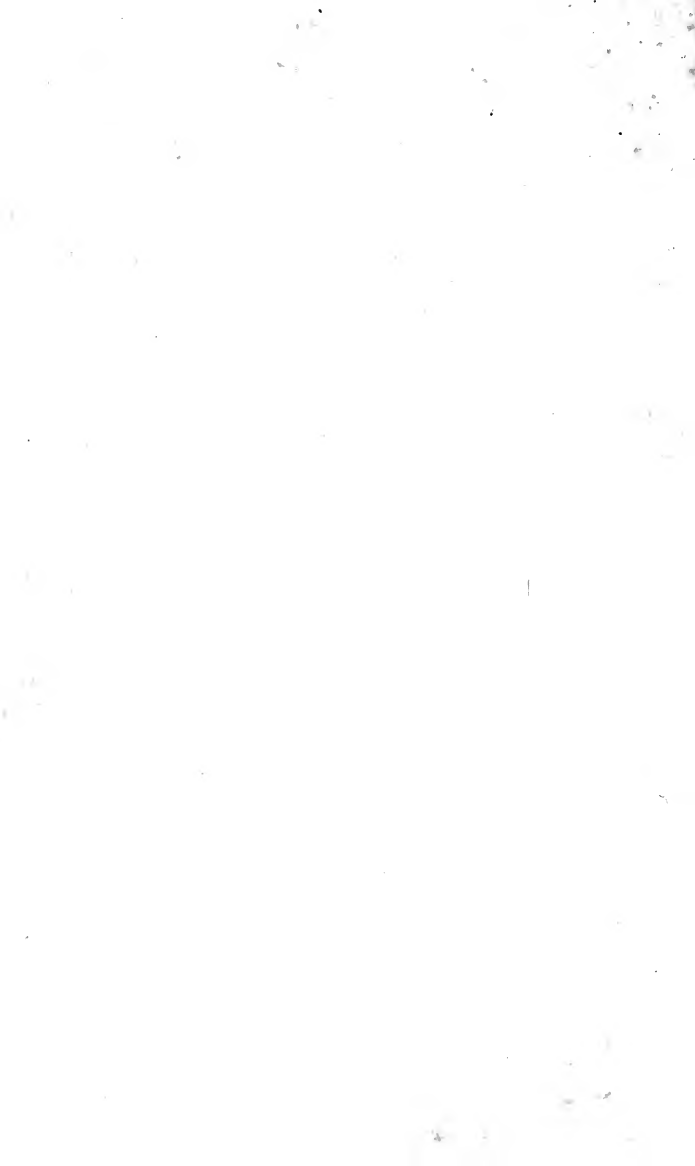
The *Morant Cays* are situated about 33 miles to the south-

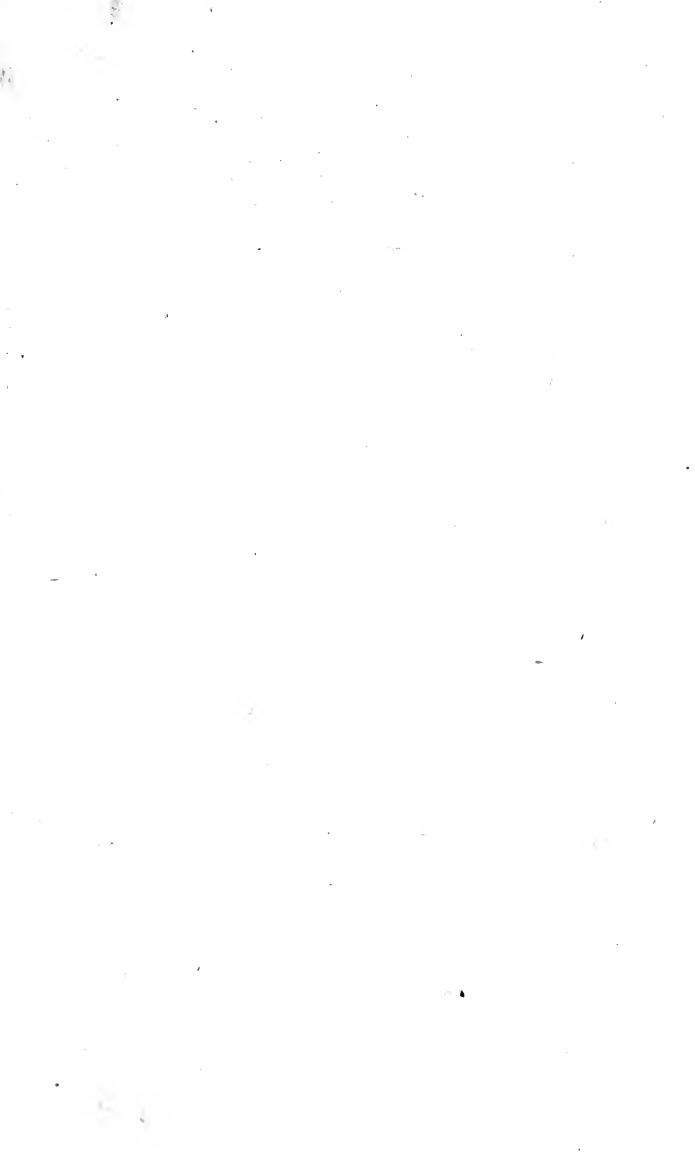
east of Morant Point, and consist of three small islets. The sea-birds resort thither in great numbers during March, and in April the islets are covered with their eggs, which are collected and taken in schooners to Jamaica. A few turtles are caught later in the summer.

The *Pedro Cays* are situated some 45 miles to the S.W. of Portland Point, and consist of 4 cays. Cocoa-nuts have been planted on the N.E. and S.W. cays.

All of the aforesaid cays were taken possession of, on behalf of the British crown, in the years 1862 and 1863 respectively, and they were formally annexed to Jamaica on the 1st of June 1882.

THE END.





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